

THE TIMES

TUC leaders to seek flexible pay formula

The possibility of a further year of pay restraint will be discussed tomorrow at a meeting of the TUC economic committee. Most members are understood to favour a deal with the Government despite union pressures for big pay rises, but they know that to carry their members any formula must be more flexible than the present phase.

Union view hardening against phase three

By Tim Jones
Labour Reporter

The TUC economic committee will meet tomorrow for the first time since the Budget to discuss the possibility of a further year of pay restraint in cooperation with the Government. The Chancellor's proposals of more tax cuts if wage demands are held back will be examined in detail by the union leaders, who face growing discontent among rank-and-file members over falling living standards.

Although Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary, has indicated that the Budget provided a basis for discussion, the union leaders know that to carry their members any agreement must be far more flexible than the present policy.

Pressure for more money is building up from all sides of industry and some Whitehall unions have indicated that they will be seeking big pay rises in the next round.

A survey by the Society of Civil and Public Servants shows that its members would require increases of between 36 and 52 per cent to restore their real incomes to the level of April, 1975.

Although the union is not likely to seek rises of that order, its members are bound to demand amounts that will go some way to restoring lost ground.

Members of the biggest Whitehall union, the Civil and Public Services Association, are to be urged by their executive to reject further voluntary pay restraint and generally motions for discussion at all union conferences, show a hardening of attitudes against a phase three.

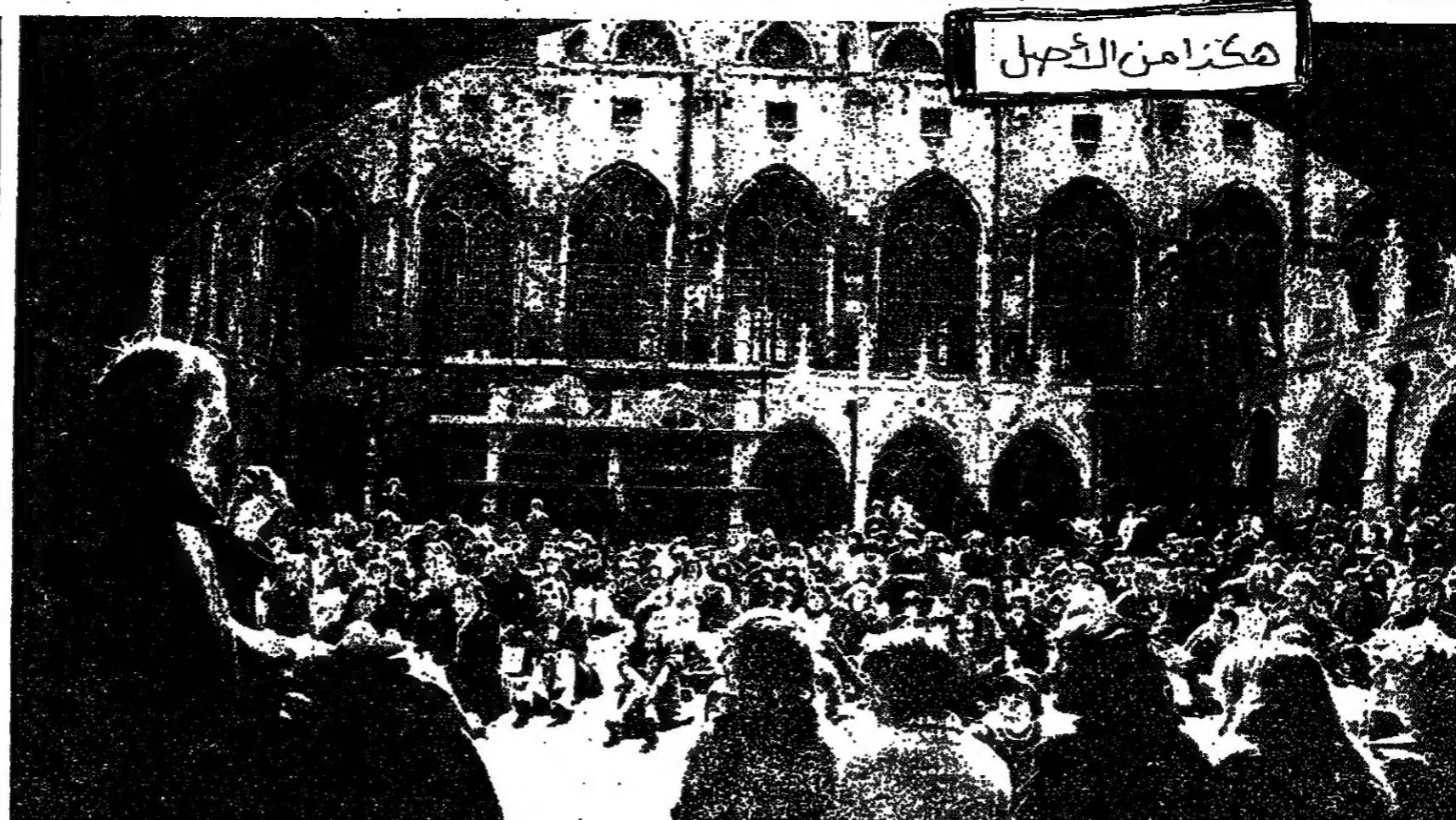
In spite of those pressures, most members of the economic committee favour another deal but they know that it may be "credible" to their members.

Much of the discussion now is likely to centre on an "orderly" return to free collective bargaining within a further period of voluntary agreement with the Government.

There are likely to be strong calls for government action to control prices as part of any deal.

The committee is unlikely to take serious consideration to another flat-rate incomes policy, but some members will demand the institution of a TUC minimum wage level.

Mrs Williams accused, page 2



Photograph by Harry Kerr

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Coggan, holding a lunchtime question-and-answer session with young people in the cathedral cloisters yesterday as part of the Easter Youth Pilgrimage.

Victims of gunman flown home

From Charles Harrison Nairobi, April 11

Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, today outlined his ideas on a Rhodesian settlement to President Nyerere of Tanzania and Mr Robert Mugabe, one of the leaders of the Rhodesian Patriotic Front, when he arrived in Dar es Salaam, the first stop on his African tour.

A British official said Dr Owen had been "very frank and direct" with the Rhodesian nationalists, who during the meeting had modified what at first had been a "very sceptical" attitude.

The gunman, described as of Arab appearance, was said to be between 23 and 26, of slim, athletic build, with a moustache and black, greasy hair and sideburns. He was wearing a black trench coat, black flared trousers and a white shirt with a dark tie.

A theory that he was a professional gunman is among police lines of inquiry. A link with the international terrorist "Carlos" is not discounted.

Afterwards, the Patriotic Front said in a statement: "The Patriotic Front remains of the firm opinion that the Zimbabwe (Rhodesian) conflict can be resolved only in the battlefield."

Nicholas Ashford writes from Salisbury: Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, said today that no much should not be expected from the talks which he is due to hold on Wednesday with Dr Owen.

Speaking in Cape Town after a holiday cruise, he said that not only was Dr Owen new to his job, but he had no practical experience of the Rhodesian problem.

"If people are not prepared to take the most elementary steps of examining the problem

Another photograph, page 2.

Michael Knipe writes from Salisbury: Mr Smith is expected to press upon Dr Owen the feasibility of a referendum among black Rhodesians to establish who they regard as their leader. He is also expected to urge Dr Owen to visit Salisbury to assess the political and racial climate at first hand.

There has been no sign from the Rhodesian Government that Mr Smith is particularly impressed by Dr Owen's reported plan for attention to be centred on the drafting of a new constitution before detailed talks begin on the setting up of an interim government.

The airline has been able to

Dr Owen's frank talks at first stop in Africa

From Our Correspondent

where the problem lies. I must in all honesty say I don't believe a great deal is going to come out of these talks."

Owen will not be visiting Rhodesia during his current tour of southern Africa. He is due in Cape Town from Mozambique tomorrow night and will see both Mr Smith and Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, the following day.

Asked if he had any proposals to put to Dr Owen, Mr Smith said his Government would hold its own trials and establish whether Britain intended to scrap the Anglo-American agreement negotiated by Dr Henry Kissinger, the former United States Secretary of State, or whether there was a possibility of going back to that agreement.

The South African Government seems to be awaiting Dr Owen's arrival with caution.

Although ministers have been given some of Dr Owen's recent remarks, the Government nevertheless remains anxious to see an acceptable settlement reached.

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Russian fined £10,000 for fishing offence

From Our Correspondent

Mr Donald McLeay, procurator fiscal, said the Hovan was sighted by HMS Jersey with its gear in the water. Mr Kremeruk, told the British officers he was authorized to fish in place of a Russian vessel which had a license, but substitution is that manner was not permitted.

Mr John Matthew, for the skipper, said he was aware of the limitation on the number of Russian boats permitted to fish, but not of the licensing procedure. Mr Matthew produced a radio message from the mother ship which stated that the Hovan was authorized to fish "in the English economic zone".

The new order came into effect on April 1, since when Mr Matthew said, the skipper had not been back to his home port. The maximum fine for illegal fishing is £50,000 on summary conviction.

Ship arrested, page 4

Decision today on return to work at Heathrow

By Our Labour Reporter

British Airways yesterday operated more than half its usual Bank holiday flights to Europe from Heathrow airport, London, in spite of continued industrial action by maintenance engineers.

Yesterday, the airline said it had operated 55 European flights and expected a similar number to leave today for most European destinations.

Long-haul flights were operating almost normally.

Quietest Easter: The Royal Automobile Club said yesterday that this Easter had been the quietest on the roads for at least a decade (the Press Association reports).

Holiday sport, including the results of 16 race meetings, pages 6-8

Family tree specialists beginning to branch out

By Philip Howard
The gardener Adam and his wife smothered the claims of long descent. But they said also that in our generation that has abandoned the hereditary principle as a method of selecting people, except for the monarchy and membership of certain exclusive trade unions. Pedigree-hunting is increasingly big business.

Debrett's, publisher of the *Pedigree and Baronetage*, has just opened an office in Winchester (appropriately, in the street called Parchment) to track down pedigrees for ardent ancestor-hunters, especially Americans. For an initial fee of £100, a professional searcher, Mr Hugh Parker, will climb as far as he can for the money up a client's family tree.

Debrett's has recently been bought from the International Publishing Corporation by an independent company formed in order to market its publications more fiercely to satisfy the modern lust for ancestor worship. The new owners have already turned last year's loss of £3,000 into a profit this year, and are expecting in the coming financial year a turnover of £200,000, most of it from tracing pedigrees.

The firm gets its name from a Piccadilly bookseller, John Debrett, the son of a French émigré, who gave his name to the guide to the peerage he had taken over in 1802. Debrett's was the Whig bookshop. A few doors away in Piccadilly, Stockdale's was the Tory bookshop with its own rival guide to the peerage. In those days one of the many guides to the peerage, falling conveniently open at the most interesting page, was an essential piece of furniture in any self-respecting drawing-room. As Jane Austen's novels make michievously clear, indomitable knowledge of the ramifications of the peerage (and, better still, genealogical connection with it) was an essential passport into polite society.

Mr Patrick Montague-Smith, editor of Debrett's, judges that the modern interest in pedigree is no longer snobbish, but is evidence of a general interest in history, and a particular interest in finding one's own roots.

He says: "In the old days the interest was largely snobbish. People wanted to discover their connexion to noble families or their right to coats of arms. If the researcher found a skeleton in the cupboard, he kept the door firmly closed, because his client did not want to know. Sometimes the client actually instructed him not to discover any vulgar roots.

"Today, interest in ancestry is disinterested. Americans and our other clients, many of them young, are saying: 'Here I am. This is my surname. Who am I? How did I get here?'

"They are just as interested in their mother's mother as in the male line. That is why the cartwheel genealogies, showing all a person's ancestors centred on him or her, are becoming popular. It is a search for identity."

Others in the ancestor-hunting business include the College of Arms, a department of the royal household founded in 1483. The heralds and pursuivants and their assistants will trace a family tree back for a fee, but with no guarantees of identification.

Continued on page 2, col 1

DC9 pilot 'flew uncleared into Trident's path'

From Dessa Treviranus Zagreb, April 11

Mr Gradimir Tasic, principal defendant in the trial of eight Yugoslav air traffic controllers charged with causing the world's worst mid-air collision last September, said in court today that the fatal errors were committed by the controllers of the middle sector and by the pilot of the Yugoslav DC9 involved.

A total of 176 people were killed in the disaster when the Yugoslav aircraft collided in clear skies near Zagreb with a British Airways Trident flying from London to Istanbul at an altitude of 33,000 feet with 54 passengers and nine crew members on board.

The air space over Zagreb is divided into three sectors - lower, middle and upper - and, before an aircraft is allowed to pass from one level to another, clearance must be obtained.

Mr Tasic, who was killed in the trial of eight Yugoslav air traffic controllers charged with causing the world's worst mid-air collision last September, said in court today that the fatal errors were committed by the controllers of the middle sector and by the pilot of the Yugoslav DC9 involved.

At that time, Mr Tasic said, he was talking to several aircraft and making telephone calls to the Belgrade control centre which under normal circumstances would have been handled by his assistant.

When he realized that the DC9 had climbed to his sector without his clearance, he asked for the altitude and warned the Yugoslav pilot that a British Trident was in front of him, coming from left to right. Mr Tasic said the Yugoslav pilot agreed to stay at a safer altitude, but this, it seems, was approaching fatally close to the altitude of the Trident.

However, Mr Tasic said, on his radar screen the altitude of the Trident was 33,500ft. At this point there was still time to avoid disaster, and he was hoping that the Yugoslav pilot would spot the British aircraft if he was below it.

He then saw the picture on the screen of two aircraft converging and merging into one.

But as immediately after they separated again, he felt the catastrophe was averted and that they were each continuing to their destinations. It was only when the aircraft disappeared from the screen that he realized what had occurred.

After listening to the tape of the control tower, the inquiry commission had noted that, although she was the crisis approaching, Mr Tasic was gone on talking to the Yugoslav pilot without betraying any anxiety. The presiding judge asked today why his voice was calm, and when he was asked if he was obeying instructions since controllers were expected not to panic.

The eight controllers are charged with negligence and failure to obey instructions, coming late to work and failure to adhere to the standard terminology in the English language.

From the moment that it was made known at the weekend that France was providing

'Vietnam' fears over Paris arms links with Zaire

From Paul Martin

Paris, April 11

Fears that France is deeply involved in the conflict between rebel forces and the Zaire Government increased today with the disclosure that

French military teams have been in Zaire for some time. The group arrived before France decided to airlift a Moroccan expeditionary force to President Mobutu's aid.

The French experts, whose role has evoked comparisons with Vietnam, are said to be engaged in a crash programme to train the Zaire armed forces in the use of new French weapons.

Nevertheless fears of a deep involvement remain, particularly as it was disclosed that 170 French airmen are taking part in the Rabat-Kinshasa air lift by 10 French Air Force Transall C160s and a DC8 transport which began on Saturday.

The initial reaction to the operation has been surprisingly

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birdies with my magic wand: Lord Crothorpe-Hunt on devolution

Feature, page 12

Alex Haley, author of the best-seller *Roots*, denounces "opportunistic" allegations that it is not authentic

Art, page 9

William Mann on II troopers at Salisbury Easter Festival; John Percival on ballet in the Rhine

land; Stanley Sadie on the English Chamber Orchestra

Obituary, page 14

Sir Robert Tredgold, Miss Karen Armstrong, C. J. Smithalls

Business News, pages 15-19

Financial Editor: Defusing the gilt

market; radical thinking on investment trusts; inflation accounting and how the debate has grown to a heat

Crossword feature: Roger Vobey looks at the oil companies' efforts to keep and win custom at the petrol pumps

Scaring all the

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HOME NEWS

Britain's proportion of older mothers at work largest in EEC

By Neville Hodgkinson

Social Policy Correspondent
In Britain more women go back to work after having children than in any other EEC country, according to a survey of labour forces in the Community.

About two-thirds of British women in their forties and early fifties are economically active [either in a job or seeking a job] compared with under a third in Holland, Ireland, Luxembourg and Italy. The figure for Belgium is below two-fifths, for France and West Germany about a half. The nearest to Britain is Denmark, with about three-fifths.

The survey in which these remarkable differences have been brought to light was conducted in 1975. It was designed and coordinated by the Statistical Office of the European Communities (SOEC) in consultation with statisticians of the nine member governments. The same criteria for defining "economically active" were used in all the countries.

A preview of the results is given in the latest *Population Trends*, journal of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. In an article about the labour force survey, which is to be published shortly,

Activity rates were consistently high for women in all age groups, from the early twenties to the mid-fifties, in Britain, Denmark, France and Germany. But in the Continental countries there was also a fairly steady decline from the early twenties onwards, whereas Britain stands alone in showing

more clearly than any other country, married women returning to work in their late thirties, forties and early fifties.

The figure of about two-thirds for those active between the ages of 40 and 54 in Britain was as high as for those in the 20-24 age group. But the proportion fell to a half among those aged between 25 and 34, when women were raising their families.

The international differences in the relative numbers of women taking paid jobs reflect varying attitudes to the role of women, and differences in social and economic structure.

Factors identified in other studies have included the availability of day nurseries, the number of years' schooling the women have received, husbands' earnings, and the extent of urbanization of the areas in which they live.

An increase in the proportion of married women in the labour force in Britain is one of the biggest social changes of recent years. The figure rose from about two-fifths in 1951 to well over three-fifths in 1971.

Among married women aged between 45 and 54 the proportion working in 1971 was the same as in 1951, 22 per cent.

The proportion of married women returning to work while their children are still young has also increased. In 1951 about 13 per cent were working after five years of marriage; in 1971, the figure was 19 per cent. Comparable figures after nine years of marriage were 21 per cent in 1951 and 33 per cent in 1971.

Europa, page 17

Community service plan proves its worth

Community service projects as a means of creating temporary work for unemployed young people are commended in a report published today by the Dartington Social Research Unit.

The independent study has assessed the cases of 212 young people who took part in the Springboard programme, launched last year in Sunderland to help local health and social services.

The report says that a third of the participants had been successful in obtaining jobs after their relatively brief involvement in community service. But it dispels the belief that participation in a job-creation programme would be viewed purely as a means of earning money until a better paid or more permanent job was available.

More than seven-tenths of the young people said they intended to keep in touch with their clients, particularly the elderly, whom they got to know during their work. About 45 per cent of them wanted to work with old people, 15 per cent with the mentally handicapped and 95 per cent with the physically handicapped.

By the time the young workers left Springboard nearly three-quarters of them were following further-education courses, some or day-release, many at evening classes and some through correspondence courses. 80 per cent of them went to take up full-time training, mainly in social work, and many others applied.

Misgivings had been felt initially among virtually all those in charge of institutions that had agreed to accept completely unskilled and inexperienced adolescents.

Its conclusion is that one consequence of the Springboard programme has been that "the quality of life of some of the most vulnerable people in society has been enriched—that is, the elderly, the institutionalized and many deprived children—while the aspirations of young workers have been raised and for the first time they can see work as fulfilling, enriching and deeply enjoyable".

But it adds a warning: "If this fund of hope and realization is dissipated, then the bitterness and resentment of workers and clients will be considerable".

Vote to take over Prince's estates

Cornwall's Meyboon Kernow, or Sons of Cornwall, who want home rule for the county, voted yesterday to take over the Cornish lands of the Prince of Wales and put them under the control of a Cornish assembly.

The cost could be met from part of the money that would be saved by a Conservative government by withdrawing aid to unprofitable industries.

The scheme would "crack down on the present social security scroogers" and give them an additional incentive (the bonus payment) to obtain and stay in a job.

Inquiry into IRA claims

Complaints by IRA terrorists serving life sentences that Merseyside and Manchester police used excessive violence when they were arrested are being investigated by Northumbria police.

Unemployed Sheep and Goats (The Bow Group, 40p, plus postage).

twice in their lives, who could be described as "job changers"; grade B, an intermediate category; and grade C, those who have left their jobs willingly or more than twice, or "have never taken a job, or who have been unemployed for two years or more".

Mr Harvey proposes that unemployment benefit would be tied to a person's work record during his life and to his previous salary. Redundancy payments, he says, should be scrapped and replaced by a system of bonus payments payable a year after getting and staying in a new job. Cuts in the rate of benefits paid to grade C would be designed to tighten the screws on the long-term unemployed.

He says that the new system would "establish the principle of job changing as a normal and fully paid interlude in a man's life, and this is a price that must be paid in a more competitive economy where firms will be naturally contracting and expanding according to market conditions".

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The scheme would "crack down on the present social security scroogers" and give them an additional incentive (the bonus payment) to obtain and stay in a job.

Debrett's is beginning to branch out

Continued from page 1

success, and with a warning that the client may not like their findings.

Burke's, which like Debrett's chronicles the ancestry of the upper classes, will also hunt down ancestors for the ambitious or the inquisitive. And so will members of the Society of Genealogists and other freelance researchers. There is increasing interest as well as gold in those old parish registers.

Debrett's moved last month into new offices in Chelsea. It has just published *Correct Form*, a guide to protocol and forms of address in Britain and the United States. It is "Your Majesty" the first time you speak to her, subsequently "Ma'am". This latter should always rhyme with "Pam". Pronunciation to rhyme with "pam" has not been correct for some generations. It is "Mr President", but "Mrs Carter".

Debrett's is planning a number of general genealogical books: on Queen Victoria's two jubilees; on Scordis clans, identifying clan leaders in North America and Australia as well as Scotland, and on shooting parties of the past century, with particular emphasis on royal and what they ate.

Mr Harold Brooks-Baker, the American managing director of the new company, Debrett's Pearce Ltd, says: "Everyone has ancestors." An increasing number of people seem to want to track them down.

Family hurt in blast

Mr William Walters, aged 40, his wife and their son, aged 12, were taken to hospital yesterday after an explosion badly damaged their home in Essex Terrace, Swansea. Mr Walters was detained. Gas men investigated.

Correction

Mr Peter Windle, a teacher at St Theodore's School, Burnley, Lancashire, did not make comments about educationists being exposed as fools which were ascribed to him on March 2 in an article on the great education debate.



Police divers unsuccessfully searching the Serpentine, in Hyde Park, London, yesterday, for the gun that was used to murder three prominent Arabs outside a London hotel on Sunday.

Mrs Williams accused of education meddling

From Tim Devlin
Education Correspondent

Relations between the Government and the country's biggest teaching union have reached such a low point that Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, yesterday called for a frank examination of different

opposition spokesman on education, of irresponsibility and seeking publicity.

He said the Department of Education and Science had generally made life more difficult and uncertain for the teaching profession. It was said that that should be so when the Secretary of State was one of the country's most popular and respected politicians and a friend of his long standing.

By John Groser
Teenage drinking 'can lead to violence'

Teenage drinking can lead to football violence, vandalism and theft and cause loss of memory and absenteeism from school. Those are among the preliminary findings of a survey by the Medical Council on Alcoholism into drinking by the young, published today.

The statistics will be presented tomorrow by Mrs Joyce Burton, secretary of the Education Welfare Officers' National Association, to its annual conference in Sheffield. Mrs Burton blames parents for encouraging drinking among children and she adds that women have become big spenders on alcohol.

She will propose to the conference that supermarkets that

refuse to isolate their alcoholic drinks sections and control the sale of alcohol to young people should be banned from holding licences to sell liquor.

The conference is to call on Mr Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, to make known to the medical profession the results of recent surveys. Local authorities will be invited to take a more stringent view of the sale of intoxicating liquor to young people.

Mrs Burton draws her figures from a pilot study involving 160 boys and 160 girls.

She says that by the age of 16, 90 per cent of girls and 98 per cent of boys were drinking. Of these, 41 per cent of the girls and 49 per cent of the boys had suffered a "hangover" more than once.

The Wilkinsons appealed to

Mrs Williams last summer but

she decided under section 53 of the Education Act that the county council had not acted unreasonably. Her department asked whether the education committee could review the position, but it declined.

Mr Alistair Goodlad, the

Wilkinson's MP, took up the case, but the Ombudsman's decision favoured the council.

Mrs Wilkinson said yesterday

that she reminded the education committee of its obligation to make an attendance order on the boy because he had been away from school so long.

The parents were entitled to do

when the attendance order came, they nominated the school of their choice, Nantwich

and Acton, where his brothers, Michael, aged 17, and Jonathan, aged 14, are refused.

Of the other children, Andrew, aged 15, is at Christleton Comprehensive and Suzanne at Duddon County Primary School.

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HOME NEWS

Socialism or barbarism the only choice, Sir Andrew Bevan says

Socialists gave an answer to Mr Andrew Bevan, the Labour youth officer, when he read his first report at conference in Blackpool last week. Mr Bevan, aged 24, a former chairman of the young Socialists.

He was appointed youth officer despite the opposition of some Labour MPs and agents. Mr Bevan told the conference that civilization would be destroyed if the capitalist system was allowed to continue for the next decade or two.

"Historically speaking, the alternatives ahead of us are socialism or barbarism, socialism or the annihilation of mankind itself," he said. The responsibility fell on the shoulders of the young generation of the Labour movement.

The Young Liberals' target for criticism by delegates, Mr Nicholas ("Nick") Bradley, a national committee member, said: "The spectacle of Young Liberals smoking cannabis at their conference shows the middle-class degeneracy of that organization".

Delegates passed a resolution demanding that all MPs receive only the average industrial wage plus necessary expenses any surplus or other earnings go to party funds. Mr

Young Liberals alarmed at MPs' handling of pact

The Liberal Party's 13 MPs were criticized yesterday at the annual conference of the Young Liberals at West-super-Mare, which expressed alarm over the Parliamentary Liberal Party's handling of the Liberal-Labour pact.

Delegates said the MPs were working on the basis of moderation and of stopping socialism instead of using the pact to promote Liberal policies.

A motion, passed by a large majority, called for the Liberal MPs to pursue Liberal policies, to seek the advice of the elected policy bodies of the party, and to attack the Labour Government for its "conservatism".

Moving the motion, Miss Melanie Winterbotham, from Ealing, London, press officer of the South East of England Liberal Federation, said: "We should call upon the parliamentary party to rethink their attitude and to consult the party more." She said the Young Liberals should "pester" the parliamentary party and give advice.

Importance of smoking as cause of bronchitis

By Our Health Services Correspondent

The incidence of illness and death from bronchitis remains high despite less atmospheric pollution and better working conditions, the Office of Health Economics has reported today. The incidence of smoking has increased as a cause. Cigarette smoking is a main cause of progressive chronic bronchitis, it says.

The disease causes a tenth of all sickness absence from work in the United Kingdom and kills about 30,000 people a year.

Treatment costs the National Health Service about £100m in 1974, when £250m was lost from production through bronchitis illness. The disease was often not detected until too late for effective intervention.

Preventing Bronchitis (Office of Health Economics, 162 Regent Street, London, W1, 3Sp).

World experts at conference on rheumatic illness

Eighty world experts on rheumatology are to begin an eight-day meeting at Aldershot, Hampshire, today to evaluate research and treatment. It is hoped that the meeting, part of World Rheumatism Year, will lead to new cooperation between medical disciplines.

It has been convened for the World Health Organization and the International League Against Rheumatism, today to evaluate research and treatment. It is hoped that the meeting, part of World Rheumatism Year, will lead to new cooperation between medical disciplines.

After the conference there will be a three-day laboratory meeting at the Kennedy Institute to complement work on patient investigation. A symposium on recognition, standardization and therapeutic evaluation of anti-rheumatic drugs will follow at the Cunard Hotel, Hammersmith, London.

Significantly, the "Com-

Service to find jobs is expanded

Capital Radio, the London commercial radio station, is to expand its job-finding service.

From April 18, the start of the heavy rush of school-leavers seeking their first jobs, six extra staff from the Government's Employment Service Agency will man the service's special switchboard.

The 52 nations represented

WEST EUROPE

Spanish ex-minister attacks end of Communist Party ban

From Our Correspondent Madrid, April 11

The legalisation of the Spanish Communist Party has attracted favourable comment from many Spanish political leaders, but not from all of them.

Prominent critics of the move included Señor Manuel Fraga, the former Interior Minister and leader of the centre-right coalition known as the Popular Alliance, and a Falangist, Señor Raimundo Fernández Cuesta, who owes his seat in the outgoing Spanish Parliament to a personal appointment by General Franco.

Señor Fraga, who is also General Franco's former Ambassador to London, said that the legalisation of the Communist Party was "a grave political error and a judicial farce". He continued: "The political reform in Spain already has enough problems without the unnecessary addition of the legalisation of the most undemocratic party, a party which is appearing with the same figures which it presented in 1936."

"The only country in Europe in which Communism was defeated is Spain. And now Communism is given legal status without any compensation. It can be said that we are dealing with a real coup d'état which has transformed into rupture."

Communist sources here said that they hoped to organize a mass rally later this month to celebrate their long-awaited recognition. They hoped by that time the President of the Spanish Communist Party, Señor Dolores Ibárruri, "La Pasionaria", would be back in Spain to preside over the rally.

She is in Moscow awaiting permission from the Spanish authorities to return.

Leading article, page 13

EEC 'ungenerous' to developing countries

Suru, Fiji, April 11—Ratu Sir Kamise Mara, the Prime Minister of Fiji, opening a meeting of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP), Council of Ministers, today accused the European Community of being unyielding and ungenerous towards Third World countries.

Sir Kamise Mara, President of the ACP council, said that although inflation and unemployment were affecting the Community this did not justify the EEC turning in on itself and away from Third World partners.

"One has become conscious of an unyielding and ungenerous attitude on the part of the Community", he said.

"We should forcefully remind them that the poor countries are more vulnerable to recessions than rich countries, and that what is at stake for poor countries is not the loss of marginal luxuries but of basic necessities."

The 52 nations represented

Gang blows up motorway toll stations

Narbonne, France, April 11—About thirty masked men blew up six toll stations on a motorway near here last night after overpowering their attendants, police said.

The attackers, thought to be winegrowers angry over imports of cheap Italian, Algerian and Spanish wine, first stopped traffic and then placed explosive charges under the stations. The attendants were not harmed.

A spokesman for the regional association of winegrowers denied responsibility but did not discount the possibility of mavericks in the organization.—Reuters

Pied Piper town tries to stop nuclear plant

From Our Correspondent Berlin, April 11

Hanover, the Pied Piper's town in Lower Saxony, is trying to stop construction of a nuclear power plant near the town.

It has instructed a team of lawyers to seek an injunction against Lower Saxony's Minister for Social Affairs, who has to approve power plant construction plans and who has permitted the first stage of the scheme to go ahead.

The spokesman for the regional association of winegrowers denied responsibility but did not discount the possibility of mavericks in the organization.—Reuters

The seven were among about 20 prisoners who mutinied last night, took five guards hostage and tried to force their way out of the prison gate. But a prison officer returning to duty after Easter leave at that moment barred the gate from the outside and fired shots into the air to give the alarm.

The seven, who appeared to be armed, took refuge in a cell with their hostages. Later they released one. Another is said to have a head injury after

being hit with the butt of a pistol.

The seven described themselves as members of a "fighting communist" group. Police said the leader appeared to be Massimo Marzolla, the leader of Renzo Curcio, a jailed leader of the notorious Red Brigades terrorist group.

Police cordoned off the jail while a Perugia magistrate tried to negotiate with the men by telephone. Efforts were being made to trace the lawyers named by the group and some were reported to be on their way to Perugia.

Italy's jails, seething with discontent over the primitive conditions and the slowness of the judicial system, are a principal target for subversive groups. Several mutinies, escapes and attempted escapes have been organized by members of these groups from inside while magistrates responsible for prison administration have been shot and wounded by unidentified gunmen.

Son of Littlewoods Pools head killed in crash

Marseilles, April 11—Mr Nigel Moore, aged 40, son of Mr Cecil Moore, Littlewoods Pools managing director, was killed in a road accident near here on Saturday night, police said. They said his Land Rover had overturned on a country road at Les Baux de Provence, 20 miles from here.

A passenger, Mrs Caroline Harrison, aged 30, was also killed and two others, Mr James Barrington, aged 38, and Mrs Anne Williams, aged 24, were injured and taken to hospital.

A British consider official said Mr Barrington had chest injuries while Mrs Williams had a broken nose. Mr Moore died in hospital an hour after the accident.

It was thought the four were

all put in perspective. The

Franco tactic used by police to seal off Vitoria

Madrid deals blow to Basque hopes by suppressing marches

From Harry Debelius Madrid, April 11

A young man whose skull was fractured in a clash with police in Durango, near Bilbao, was the most serious casualty of the Basque national day demonstration which took place in dozens of Spanish cities and towns, according to reports here today.

Officers injured in the skirmishes in yesterday's officially banned demonstrations included a news cameraman filming for Belgian television. Identified as M. E. Bonnaga, he suffered internal bleeding after being hit in the chest by a rubber bullet during confrontation between police and demonstrators in Vitoria. Several other newsmen who ran to his aid were also shot with rubber bullets.

In a long statement, the official communiqué since the party's legalization, the Communists said: "We will participate with decisiveness in the elections". The communiqué added: "A triumph in the cause of democracy".

The communiqué called for a total amnesty, claiming that the amnesty which led to legal recognition of the Communist Party was "a grave political error and a judicial farce".

It was the theme of this year's *Abertzale Eguna*—the Basque national day which always coincides with Easter Sunday—appeared to be small, with only 10 people reported to be still in custody in Madrid. In Vitoria, the city where the main demonstration was planned.

But when the Interior Minister banned the gathering there thousands of Basques went to the shrine of St Ignacio Loyola at Azpeitia near San Sebastián, the alternative assembly point secretly designated by the Basque National Party. However, as they tried to march past, police turned them back without any serious incidents.

The theme of this year's *Abertzale Eguna*—freedom for political prisoners, liberty and Basque autonomy—nevertheless received ample publicity, partly as a result of the massive police measures aimed at snuffing out the expression of Basque home rule ambitions.

The suppression of the celebration, combined with the failure of the Government to fulfil what Basque leaders looked on as a promise to free all political prisoners by Easter makes the possibility of understanding between Madrid and the fiercely independent Basques more difficult than ever.

Escape car of Karlsruhe killers found

From Gretel Spitzer Berlin, April 11

Police searching for the murderers of Herr Siegfried Buback, the chief West German prosecutor, have found the Alfa Romeo car in which the assassins are thought to have escaped from the scene of the crime in Karlsruhe.

The federal agency for criminal

investigation said it had been discovered 40 miles from Karlsruhe at Sachsenheim. It was assumed that this was the car used by the two men who fired the fatal shots from a motor cycle last Thursday.

The agency suspects that after abandoning the motor cycle, the two men changed to the Alfa Romeo, driven by a third man.

An agency spokesman said that an eyewitness saw men getting into the car 75 minutes after the murder.

Police are seeking three men they wish to question in connection with the murder. They are Günter Sonnenberg, aged 22, Christian Klar, aged 24, and Knut Folkerts, aged 25.

Leading article, page 13

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Tory lead
in city of
welcoming
tension

How to stop the government machine running out of control

One of the main planks in the Lib-Lab pact is that "progress must be made on legislation for devolution and to this end consultations will begin on the detailed memorandum submitted by the Liberal Party." These consultations will have little chance of success unless there is a clear recognition on all sides of the purposes of devolution. Here there appear to be two choices. To some people devolution is simply a dangerous expedient which the government has adopted in an attempt to appease the Scottish and Welsh nationalists. To others, devolution is the essential ingredient in a long overdue reform of our system of government as a whole.

It is largely because the government's proposals seem to be inspired primarily by the appeasement objective that they have run into such trouble. And it's parsimonious appeasement at that. So the amount of devolution appears to have been calculated on the basis of the minimum necessary to thwart the Scottish National Party and Plaid Cymru—rather than on considerations of the good government of the United Kingdom as a whole. Hence so many of the imperfections in the Bill which have become abundantly clear since Christmas. After all, the very real fears in some English regions that this appeasement approach will be at their expense. And, hence, finally, the disagreement about whether it's necessary to go down the devolution road at all—with many honestly believing that the Scottish and Welsh demand for devolution will subside with the smack of firm government and the return to economic prosperity.

But the essence of the case for devolution is nothing at all to do with appeasing the Scottish and Welsh nationalists. As Professor Peacock and myself argued in our Constitutional Commission Minority Report the main purpose of devolution is to reduce the present excessive burdens on the institutions of central government. So great are those burdens today that busy ministers, harried from pillar to post with the crises of the moment—whether the problems of British Leyland or the Plessey closures—no longer have the time to take well thought out decisions about the major issues of our time. And Parliament, with its powers in decline (so far from an exceptional and negative assertion every now and again—possible only in a minority government situation), threshes about helplessly and volubly at the receiving end of a mass of decisions it has had little share in shaping and inadequately time to scrutinize.

This state of affairs is the inevitable consequence of the vastly increased responsibilities and functions we have handed on our central government machine since the beginning of the century. In 1900 the role of government was mainly passive and regulatory. Today, we expect it to manage the economy, control most of our basic industries, run a comprehensive social security system and a national health service, protect the environment, make the right decisions about the future

nuclear power programme, develop North Sea oil and handle any immediate crisis whether it's about the deportation of a couple of visitors or about cattle stranded over the weekend in a ship in the Irish Sea.

Not surprisingly, there has been an enormous expansion in the central government machine. In 1900 50 ministers and 50,000 civil servants ran our domestic affairs. Today the number of ministers has just about doubled—while the number of civil servants has increased 15 fold—to 750,000. No wonder then, the burden on ministers and Parliament is now intolerable. No wonder the whole machine is in danger of seizing up completely. No wonder we are so badly governed—whichever party seeks to try to run the central juggernaut.

These developments of the last three-quarters of a century have been compounded in the last few years by our membership of the European Community. The constant ministerial meetings in Brussels and the meetings andings between Whitehall bureaucrats and their EEC counterparts have increased still further the enormous burden on ministers and Parliament. So the fact has to be faced that without a major reform of our system of government as a whole the central government machine is in danger of grinding to a halt or running out of democratic control (whichever metaphor might be).

The case for devolution then is to reduce the present intolerable burdens on Whitehall and Westminster in the interests of the good government of the United Kingdom as a whole. So ministers and central government must get rid of a lot of the executive decision-making and subordinate policy making that now prevents them from devoting enough time and energy to major policy making. And if the burdens on central government are reduced in this way—it will then be possible for Parliament to develop a real and positive share in the central policy making process.

It is against considerations of this kind that the government's own proposals for devolution have to be judged. And here it must be plainly recognized that in their present form those proposals will not clear the decks of Whitehall and Westminster. Indeed the Scotland and Wales Bill, as it stands, could add still further to the burdens on central government. This is partly because the Bill fails to make a clean break between what is devolved and what is not devolved. It is also partly because the Bill appears to envisage a continuous and detailed oversight by the United Kingdom Government of the way the Scottish and Welsh assemblies will carry out even those responsibilities that are devolved. So the scheme envisages a substantial increase in bureaucracy—which is not at all what we want. In any event, with devolution to Scotland and Wales only (and with a different kind of devolution in each case) the Government will inevitably be faced



Lord Crowther-Hunt argues
that devolution is a chance to reform our
whole system of government

by the complex problem of having one dimension of legislative and administrative responsibility for the affairs of Scotland, a different dimension of responsibility for the affairs of Wales—and a still different dimension of responsibility for England. That must, in itself, add to the burdens of the centre, rather than reduce them.

It would be wrong, however, to draw the conclusion from all this that the government's present plans should be completely abandoned. Those plans can still be modified in such a way that they make a major contribution to what is the real purpose of devolution—a major reduction in the burdens on Whitehall and Westminster in the interests of the good government of the United Kingdom as a whole.

The options for progress then, are still there, but what are they? In some quarters there will be an evident temptation to believe that the log jam in Whitehall and Westminster can be greatly relieved by a major reduction in what the Government actually does—less interference by Government in our daily lives. It is a tempting prospect, but, I believe, an impractical one. It is not just a question of saving a few civil servants here and there by more efficient administration. It would involve major surgery. It would mean identifying a substantial number of the current major functions and responsibilities of government which could be jetisoned virtually completely.

Where are the candidates? No doubt we can all point to something that could be abandoned—from the government's community land policies to the nationalization of the aircraft and shipbuilding industries. But until someone can demonstrate which of the current major responsibilities of central government can be

jetisoned that the Civil Service can be reduced by the order of 50 per cent and the present burdens on ministers and Parliament more than halved, I don't believe there is any substantial mileage in this particular approach. Moreover, the proponents of this solution would also have to demonstrate how, without any major change in our system of government, we can ensure a drastic reduction in the volume of legislation—which, under governments of both our main political parties, has steadily increased from filling 1,076 pages of the statute book in 1935 to 2,248 pages in the last full year of Mr Heath's Conservative Government.

There is a second widely canvassed option which also seems to me a non-starter. This is the Conservative scheme for having a directly elected assembly in Scotland to deal with certain stages of Scottish Bills as they pass through the Westminster Parliament—with the final decision being taken by the Westminster Parliament and Government. This scheme would obviously produce constant clashes between the Scottish assembly and the Westminster Government whenever the one had a different party majority from the other. Just consider, for example, the

situation that would inevitably arise if, say, a United Kingdom Conservative Government brought forward a Conservative Housing Bill for Scotland. It would be turned into a Socialist one by a Labour-dominated Scottish assembly—which the Conservative-dominated Westminster Parliament would then presumably reject. That's very decked and cumulative frustration. More serious, though, a scheme of this kind would not produce any reduction in the United Kingdom Government's responsibilities for Scotland—whether those responsibilities were exercised by United Kingdom ministers in London or by United Kingdom ministers running the Scottish Office. So it simply would not begin to achieve the main purpose for which devolution is designed.

This of course, brings us to the heart of the matter—since the only options worth serious consideration are those which would clear the decks of Whitehall and Westminster of much of the clutter of subordinate, policy-making and executive decision-making which today so impedes the regional handling of our affairs. By this test there are obvious attractions in the traditional federalist approach (which, incidentally, the Commission on the Constitution never seriously considered notwithstanding its root and branch condemnation of it). Clearly it would be possible to devise a workable federal scheme for the United Kingdom as a whole provided the component parts were Scotland, Wales and a number of English regions. But I'm not sure that we are prepared to contemplate in this country a situation in which real sovereignty for education, housing, health, etc. is handed over to Scotland, Wales and the different regions of England which would then be able to pass whatever primary legislation they wanted in those fields.

Do we really want the possibility of basically different education systems and health services in different parts of the United Kingdom? And if the various regions and nations of the United Kingdom did not use their sovereignty in these fields to produce very different primary laws—then either there would have been no point in giving them that amount of power—or new bureaucratic structures for inter-regional coordination and liaison would have been developed to ensure that the different parts of the United Kingdom did not exercise their sovereign powers in unacceptably divergent ways—and I'm not sure we want that sort of bureaucratic paradise.

The more fundamental case, though, against "traditional" federalism is that it no longer meets the essential needs of modern government. This is because its very essence is the increasingly outmoded concept of sovereignty. The idea that the component parts of a federal state can actually expect today to exercise real sovereign power in certain specified fields like education and health has only to be stated for its unreality and undesirability to be recognized. It is even more unreal for those countries which are members of the EEC. For them in particular it

makes little sense to seek to devolve sovereignty downwards from the nation state to the component parts of that state when ultimate sovereignty in most matters is gradually moving from the nation states themselves to Brussels.

It is in this context that we have so much to learn from the experience of West Germany—a country with a population roughly the size of our own. Though in theory a traditional federal structure it has gradually, under the impact of events, become something rather different. To all intents and purposes the Federal Government in Bonn increasingly makes major policy for the whole of West Germany in most fields—leaving it to the various Länder in effect to adapt those policies to their own special needs and to administer them accordingly. It's this broad reality of the West German system which, I believe, should be the model for devolution in the United Kingdom. And the Government's Scotland and Wales Bill can be the starting point—subject to three main provisos.

First, the Bill must be modified in such a way that there is a much clearer and more comprehensive definition of the precise powers to be devolved to Scotland and Wales. And those legislative and executive powers must be devolved in such a way that their exercise is not subject to detailed control and oversight by the Westminster Government.

Secondly, financial arrangements must be devised which, while still enabling the Westminster Government to exercise its responsibilities for the overall management of the United Kingdom economy, will, nevertheless, not circumscribe the Scottish and Welsh governments in the exercise of the powers constitutionally devolved to them. This is not so difficult as the Treasury would have us believe; and it naturally means giving the Scottish and Welsh governments the power to tax.

Thirdly, the Government must make it clear that something analogous to an amended Welsh model of devolution will eventually be available to the English regions. This will be some assurance that devolution to Scotland and Wales will not be at the long term expense of the people in the northern region, the north west region and Yorkshire and Humberside, for example. More important, though, it will be a recognition that the main purpose of devolution is to reduce the burdens on Whitehall and Westminster in the interests of the good government of the United Kingdom as a whole and thus enable United Kingdom ministers and Parliament to develop a cooperative and sensible approach to major policy making which is impossible at present.

And if all this sounds suspiciously like a reassertion of the main ideas which Professor Peacock and myself put forward in our Constitutional Commission Minority Report in 1973—well, it is. There we put forward a comprehensive blue-print for the future of our system of government as a whole—including, even, the reform of the House of Lords. It's all very relevant to the Lib-Lab talks now getting under way.

OVERSEAS

Forgery to discredit Polish opposition

By Richard Davy

A letter published recently in the West German right-wing newspaper *Deutsche National Zeitung* looks like the latest in a series of forgeries designed to discredit and disrupt opposition forces in Poland.

It bears the signatures of Professor Leszek Kolakowski, now resident in Britain, and Mr Adam Michnik, a Polish historian now visiting the West. Both have been speaking in West Europe on behalf of the Workers' Defence Committee, which was formed in Warsaw last year to help workers who suffered reprisals after the June demonstration against higher food prices.

The letter thanks Germans who have helped the committee and singles out for special mention the *Deutsche National Zeitung*, Radio Free Europe, and the organizations of expatriates from former German territories.

Polish newspapers are quoting the letter as evidence that the committee has joined forces with "the heirs of Hitler's Third Reich, with extreme revisionists, anti-Polish communists" of Germans residing in Poland—all of whom are "marching together with the drumbeat of the Munich-based Radio Free Europe".

Professor Kolakowski and Mr Michnik, who learnt only belatedly about the letter, have denounced it as a "total forgery". They draw attention to the press conference they gave in West Germany on March 17 in which they thanked "those in the German Federal Republic who in the past have fought for the recognition of the Polish western frontiers and for an understanding between our peoples".

The forgery, say the two men in letters to *Der Spiegel*, is not an isolated episode but it is the first in which the forgers have allowed themselves to be dragged into cooperation with

the "chauvinistic and anti-Polish circles of the German right-wing who question the permanency of the Polish state".

There is no direct evidence that the letter was forged by the Polish police, or some other official department, but it fits in with the recent revival in the Polish press of anti-German propaganda, which almost wholly vanished after the treaty with West Germany was signed in 1970.

It also accords with a trend throughout Eastern Europe and in the Soviet Union to allege links between dissident groups and various Western political or intelligence organizations.

In Poland itself there have been a number of forgeries in recent months. At least two forged communiqués purporting to come from the Workers' Defence Committee have been circulated. One of them said that the committee had been infiltrated, that members should not trust each other, and that any further communiques should be treated as forgeries.

A falsified text of a press conference given in London by Professor Kolakowski and Mr Michnik was sent to Poland.

Even Cardinal Wyszyński, the Polish Primate, has not been spared the publication of a falsified version of his sermons. But in this case the official Polish press agency published his denial.

The Workers' Defence Committee has put out more information pointing to increased pressure on its members and supporters. Workers who complained about ill-treatment after the demonstrations in Radom last year have been harassed, threatened and told to withdraw their complaints, according to the committee.

Warsaw University has announced disciplinary action against student signatories of a letter, signed altogether by about 750 people and requesting Parliament to investigate allegations of police brutality.

Pathet Lao force recaptures Mekong islands

Bangkok, April 11.—Pathet Lao troops recaptured two small islands in the Mekong river from rightist rebel troops today, killing at least eight of them, according to official information circulated in Vientiane.

Loudspeaker cars toured the Lao capital broadcasting the news to the people, eyewitnesses told a correspondent by telephone.

The recapture of the islands followed 24 hours of tension in Vientiane during which the communist rulers of Laos stationed at least three tanks on the Mekong river bank facing Thailand.—Reuter.

British arms sales ship slips into Manila

Manila, April 11.—A Royal Navy ship carrying armaments promoting British arms sales slipped quietly into the Philippines this weekend on the latest stage of its Far East tour.

A British embassy official confirmed that the 12,359-ton support ship, Lyness, had arrived in Manila.

Sources said the weapons being promoted are understood to include ground-to-air missiles and Scorpion tanks.

The Lyness is due to visit Bangkok, Singapore, Jakarta and Port Kelang in Malaysia after leaving the Philippines.

IMPORTANT: BRITISH AIRWAYS FLIGHT INFORMATION

We very much regret the inconvenience to our passengers that has arisen from the industrial dispute at London Airport and are grateful for their understanding at this time.

The majority of British Airways services are now operating normally, but we regret that it is still necessary to cancel a number of flights. We hope that passengers will find the following information helpful.

INTERCONTINENTAL FLIGHTS

Nearly all British Airways intercontinental services are operating according to the published timetable. However, a small number of cancellations has been made and any passengers affected will be advised prior to departure.

EUROPEAN FLIGHTS

We are operating to all countries other than Eastern Europe, details as follows.

Flights are operating normally to:

Alicante	Bordeaux	Larnaca	Marseille
Amsterdam	Brussels	Lisbon	Nice
Athens	Gibraltar	Luxembourg	Oporto
Barcelona	Helsinki	Malaga	Oslo
Bilbao	Istanbul	Istanbul	Palma

Berlin	Cork	Geneva	Milan
Bremen	Dublin	Hamburg	Munich
Cologne	Dusseldorf	Hanover	Pisa
Copenhagen	Faro	Lyons	Rome
Corfu	Frankfurt	Madrid	Shannon

Services from London

Paris	Stockholm
Stockholm	Tel Aviv
Tel Aviv	Valencia
Valencia	Vienna

Stuttgart	Turin
Turin	Zurich

Services from Provincial Centres

All international flights from provincial centres are operating normally.

DOMESTIC FLIGHTS

Services from London

Channel Islands flights are operating via coach to Southampton. All other flights cancelled until further notice.

Services between Provincial Centres

The majority of these flights are operating normally.

Whilst we shall make every effort to operate these schedules, it may be necessary to make some alterations for operational reasons.

British airways
We'll take more care of you.

SPORT

Show jumping

No holding Kerrgold in field left with taste of too much too soon

Jamela Macgregor-Morris and Macken, reunited with Kerrgold (formerly Pele), demonstrated their joint triumph at the Embassy International Prix at Hickstead yesterday, the only double clear round in a course which, combined with the weather, proved to be just too much too soon for the horses so early in the season. The water and the final private cross took a heavy toll and the competition, delayed for two rounds and a barrier, did not return for Kerrgold, on whom the German-based Irishman was runner-up for the world championship here in 1974, shook off his nerves and his opponent in the second round.

Seven years, bred in Wales by Charles Edwards's late stallion Iron Ore, the sire of Harvey Iron, and foaled in 1970, Kerrgold was sold to the Netherlands in 1974, Johan Heins, last year, jumped one of the two clear rounds in the opening circuit, but made two mistakes second time round, Kerrgold thus continued unopposed.

Swimming



Cheryl Brazendale breaking the British record in the 800 metres free-style.

Four records for Miss Brazendale

Cheryl Brazendale set British senior free-style records at all four main distances during the swimming international sponsored by Coca-Cola, which ended at Crystal Palace yesterday. Frank Naylor, who coaches the 14-year-old Blackpool girl, said: "I knew what she could do when I selected her out of the trip to Luxembourg last week."

On Sunday, Miss Brazendale broke the 400 metres free-style record to gain qualifying times for the European championships in August, and then added the 100 metres sprint record.

In the first of yesterday's finals, she trounced the 200 metres free-style record by just over a second, and had to be content with fifth place behind Tracey Wickham, of the three-day international, which was won by Australia with 50 points. Miss Brazendale swept into third place.

Her time of 59.73sec was the previous best time, set by Sue Rudd, 17, in 1974, and a remarkable claim for a swimmer who only made her mark in the national championships last August, too late for the Olympics in Canada. "The next Olympics are my aim," Miss Brazendale said.

She carried out the instructions of her coach to the letter. But Mr Naylor was unable to be there for the record-breaking performances, due to commitments with the Nodreck Castle club. He said:

Tennis

Nastase beats Connors to retain WCT title

Las Vegas, April 11.—Ilie Nastase beat Jimmy Connors, 3-6, 7-6, 4-6, 7-5 here yesterday to retain his World Championship Tennis challenge cup title in a winner-take-all match. The victory, worth \$100,000 (about £50,000), to Nastase, was his first in his last three meetings against Connors, who was defeated for the first time in 14 matches.

Nastase began slowly, losing five of the last six games in the first set but he broke Connors's service three times in the second set and won the tie-breaker 7-4. Nastase, who missed 35 of his first serves, was held to a 50 per cent break accuracy in the final two sets. There were two trailing points. The first came in the second set, when trailing by three set points, Nastase had to win to win the game. The second came in the fourth set when he saved another game point and went on to take the set.

Reuters

For the record

Yachting

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SPORT

Racing

Reluctant mare who shows her real love

By Michael Seely

Bruce Hobbs, whose 2,000 Guineas hope, Tachyon, goes on trial in the Greenham Stakes at Newbury on Saturday, started the week on a sparkling note. Questa Notts got the better of a thriling finish with Cry No More and White Wonder for the Ladbrooke Victoria Centre Trophy and La Garde can out a decisive winner of the Clumber Stakes. The Newmarket trainer was only narrowly deprived of a treble, when Better Blessed finished like a rocket to beat Quality Blakie in the final strides of the County Handicap Stakes.

Apparently, Questa Notts is a bit of a madame. In 1976 she was evidently stoned to be mated with Wolfer Hollow, but refused to let her eager prospective husband approach her. So she was brought back into training last summer, to be prepared for the Ayr Gold Cup. In fact, however, she did little running, but still managed to finish seventh to Last Tango. Only recently she was sent to Sharpen Up, but spurned that stallion's advances as well. Apparently Questa Notts prefers to reserve her charms for the racetrack, for it was only her courage that saw her home yesterday.

Lord Fairhaven's six-year-old will now have one more race, before making a return visit to Sharpen Up, and he has the finishing with success, and warmed by the sun, Questa Notts will be in a more amorous mood on that occasion.

To say that Hobbs's first winner came as a surprise would be an understatement. His other runner, the 10-year-old Wimpy Elusive, started a warm favourite at 11-8 on. However, Elusive was in a sulky mood and despite all Lewis's hard work, never appeared likely to take a hand in the final.

The Godde is owned by Sir Thomas Pilkington, a long time patron of Hobbs. Starting at 12-1, the filly came bursting through to beat Sir Bountiful by two and a half lengths. Bought at Mr Jackie Astor's dispersal sale as a yearling, yesterday's winner was ridden by Geoff Baxter.

Uttexeter NH

(Div 2: 25 ft)

2.15 MARCHINGTON HURDLE

(Div 3: 25 ft)

3.15 CHARLES LEWIS CUP

STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: 330m: 2:30m)

3.45 SIR GROFFREY CON-

GREVE CUP STEEPLE-

CHASE (Hunters: E247: 3m:

24.5 CHESTERFIELD HURDLE

(Div 1: 4-y-o: E471: 2m 1f)

1.40 Griton, 11-12, ... Casey

2.00 Conviction, 10-11, ... Clay

3.24 Kelly's Hero, 9-12, ... Fawkes

3.30 INGMANHORSE

STEEPLECHASE (Hunters: 1657: 3m 100yds)

1.45 RAGLAN HURDLE (Div

1: novices: E525: 2m)

2.00 Montagu Hurdle, 11-12, ...

3.45 NEWMAN STEEPLE-

CHASE (Handicap: novices:

E896: 2m)

3.45 SEVERN BRIDGE

HURDLE (Handicap: novices:

E500: 2m)

2.15 VALLEY STEEPLECHASE

(Handicap: E799: 3m)

2.45 WELSH CHAMPION

HURDLE (E54: 2m)

3.00 MONTAGU HURDLE

(Handicap: E5085: 2m)

3.00 RACE DAY, 11-12, ...

3.00 RACE DAY,

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PERTH

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Applications are invited for an appointment in the Department of French. The post is available for a period of two years, starting in August, 1977, or as soon after retirement. Candidates should hold a university equivalent qualifications and be expected to teach broadly in the main fields of French language and literature, French literature, French history and French civilization. Applications are invited for an appointment on secondment or otherwise.

Applications in duplicate should reach the Secretary, University of Western Australia, Nedlands, Western Australia, 6009 by 23 April, 1977. Candidates should quote three referees to write immediately to the Staffing Officer.

The current salary range for the post is £1,215-£2,212 per annum plus a sum of £312 per annum.

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The current salary

After the riots in France over Italian wine, more trouble is brewing

Why the alarm bells are ringing over an ever-larger EEC

The prospect of Greek, Portuguese and Spanish membership in the EEC has set alarm bells ringing in France and Italy. Two people were killed in France last year in disturbances provoked by the "wine war" with Italy.

Feelings are rising again among the farmers of the Mezzogiorno and the Midi who fear that wine, olive oil, peaches, oranges and tobacco from the candidate countries will ruin their precarious livelihood.

The Centre National des Jeunes Agriculteurs has submitted a report to the French Government strongly opposing the admission of Spain to the European Community. Italian farmers are putting similar pressures on the Andreotti Government. Yet article 237 of the Treaty of Rome guarantees the right of any European country to apply for membership.

Spain's adoption of democratic institutions will remove the last obstacle to her application. The fragile coalitions ruling in Paris and Rome are caught between their Treaty commitment to negotiate with the candidate countries and their need to appease domestic interests.

A series of "sell-outs"

The problem is nothing new to Italian farmers who view it as the culmination of a series of "sell-outs". To them the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is a device for bolstering the incomes of northern European producers of temperate food stuffs while neglecting Mediterranean agriculture.

Italian consumers pay more for imported butter, cheese, cereals, veal and beef while Italian producers receive little for their wine, rice, vegetables, flowers, tobacco, olive oil, oranges and tangerines.

Italian farmers also complain that Community concessions to Spain, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus,



Farming the old way in Italy. But changes must come.

Morocco, Tunisia and Israel are responsible for the decline in Italian sales on European markets. A Sicilian EEC official said sadly that his wife could not find a single Italian tobacco orange on sale in Brussels.

Last year Italy pressed the European Commission to undertake a thorough review of Mediterranean agriculture with the implication that this was a precondition for Italian consent to a further enlargement of the Community. Former Commissioner Alciero Spinelli asked that the review be as comprehensive as possible. The resulting document, an unpublished study known as the Pizzati Report, after the Italian chairman of the working group which drew it up, gives less comfort to the Italians than they might have hoped.

With few exceptions, tariff concessions were not found to

be the decisive factor in the penetration of Community markets by Italy's Mediterranean competitors. In the case of citrus fruits, for example, Sicily and Calabria, which account for 90 per cent of Community production, have suffered a steady decline in their share of EEC markets, to the benefit of Spain. But Spain enjoyed less generous tariff concessions than Morocco or Tunisia and still outperformed them in penetrating European markets.

Spain forfeited her tariff preferences for long periods (a month in 1970, four months in 1972, two months in 1973) with little discernible effect on the growth of her exports.

Preferences were automatically cancelled when Spanish prices fell below the Community's "conventional" price.

Spain's success is attributed to her dynamic marketing and distribution system rather than to Community concessions. By contrast, 82 per cent of the farms growing citrus in the Italian south are less than five hectares in size and only 20 per cent of their products are marketed through cooperatives.

Overall fruit and vegetable exports from the Mezzogiorno declined from 12.9 million quintals (1 quintal=100 kilograms) in 1968 to 8.8 million quintals in 1973. Meanwhile the better organized producers in central and northern Italy greatly increased their share in national exports.

This suggests that the Mezzogiorno's poor performance is less a result of Community concessions to outsiders than of its own structural deficiencies. Tarocco blood oranges are delicious, but Danes, Germans

and Britons do not expect their orange juice to look like a Bloody Mary. The Spaniards and Israelis, who still face considerable barriers to trade, adjust their sales to consumer preferences. But the Italians have yet to make the changes in production, distribution and marketing which will allow them to cater to foreign tastes.

In the case of Greece, Community concessions clearly have made a difference. The terms of her 1961 association agreement with the EEC were unusually favourable, enabling Greece to make large imports into specific markets. For example, Greece increased her share of the EEC tomato paste market from 2 per cent to 34 per cent between 1966 and 1973.

Her exports of processed fruit and vegetable products to the six increased eleven-fold (by volume) between 1964 and 1972, while other Mediterranean countries increased their exports only three-fold. Concessions also helped Greece increase her exports of lemons, table grapes, apricots, melons, tobacco and wine, all products of vital interest to France and Italy.

Greece was able to make remarkable progress despite the freezing of part of her association agreement under the colossus' regime.

The cost of farm reform

Tariff concessions alone are not to blame for Italy's declining position in certain products markets. But French and Italian farmers argue persuasively that the Community may be destroyed unless a further enlargement is accompanied by radical changes in the CAP.

The most shortsighted way of "competing" French and Italian Mediterranean farmers would be to establish marketing regimes for their products similar to those which now guarantee the livelihood of northern farmers. Since most

Mediterranean products are perishable, goods bought into intervention would have to be destroyed on a vast scale, with devastating psychological consequences, especially in consumer-oriented countries like Britain. Stockable products like olive oil would accumulate into new lakes and mountains.

The only constructive form of "compensation" would be in the area of structural reform: irrigation, retraining, consolidation of land-holdings, improvement in the quality and reduction in the quantity of wine and, perhaps, a partial switch into non-Mediterranean type products.

But structural reform threatens social dislocations, brings intangible benefits in the short term and requires the national government to devise feasible schemes and to implement them. The Italian record is not promising.

The Mezzogiorno already has an excess farm labour force of 500,000 and reform might well exacerbate unemployment. At the end of the day there is no guarantee that Herr Helmut Schmidt will be able or willing to deliver Germany's vital share of the cost of farm reform.

Italy favours a "global" negotiation with all three candidates in order to tie up enlargement and "compensation" in a single package. France's approach is more nuanced mainly because its scepticism about Portugal's readiness for membership. Both agreed, however, that the main challenge comes neither from Greece nor from Portugal but from Spain's "virtually uninhibited" agricultural potential.

Michael Leigh and Johann Wilhelm Scheidt

Dr Michael Leigh is Assistant Professor of International Relations at The Johns Hopkins University, Bologna Centre. Johann Wilhelm Scheidt is his research assistant.

Bernard Levin

Scaring all the birdies with my magic wand

I bet you'll never guess where this is being typed. Indeed, I am so astonished at my surroundings that I would be hard put to it to guess myself. But I shall give us all some clues, and perhaps we can work it out together.

To start with, from the picture-window of my room I can see the sea. Those of you who are familiar with my sense-of-direction problem will not expect me to know what sea it is, and the best I can do by way of description—enormous, grey, cold-looking, trummed with white edges—is probably not enough to be of much help. My insinuator tells me that it is the Atlantic, but I also have an uneasy recollection that when I last saw the Atlantic it was the other side of the country, so this may well be the North Sea.

More to the point, however, is what I overlook before my eyes falls on the waves. It is a huge expanse of beautifully-tended greenward, liberally supplied with miniature hills and valleys, streams, sand-holes, bushes and trees. It looks agreeably wild; more exactly, it

looks as though it is meant to look agreeably wild.

Amid this sylvan scene, figures are to be described; they appear to be taking part in some strange ritual, doubtless with a deep religious basis. They walk apparently without plan or purpose, from spot to spot, carrying what must be kept implements—strange rods, kept in a kind of quiver. From time to time they remove one of these magic wands from its holder and with it address themselves to striking a small white object, evidently sacred. Often they miss; they then engage in a curious ritual dance with a stamping motion, at the same time uttering vigorous and most colourful expressions, clearly audible to me, in my eyes high above their proceedings, even through the double glazing. To my over-sophisticated western eyes, the entire ceremony appears to be pointless; but perhaps these people, whom we ignorantly call savages, have a knowledge and understanding of nature and its mysteries that we have lost.

I think that should be enough for us to go on; in case it isn't I should add that on the way here the road-signs kept urging me towards the Tay Bridge ("O beautiful bridge over the silver Tay"). The truth is, I am in St Andrews, home of the Royal and Ancient, and what I see before me is indeed sacred soil, at any rate to golfers, for over this very stretch of ground were fought those legendary battles between such giants of the game as Billy Cotton, Josh Logan and Merlyn Rees. (I may have got this bit wrong, but it's the principle of the thing that counts, I always say.)

I am, you may by now have surmised, no golfer, and you may well wonder what I am doing (I shall not enlighten you) to not be much obsessed with golf as raving mad on the subject. The restaurants and hotels are all said to be great things like "The Four Woods", "The Niblick" and "The Scores" (I am staying in "The Old Course" myself). There are at least 58 bars called "The Nineteenth Hole", and a quick check with the Chamber of Commerce reveals that well over 80 per cent of the shops in the town, most of them called Tom Auchterlonie and Son, sell equipment, clothing and other material relevant to the game.

I played a round of golf once, in much the same spirit as that which leads other, almost equally intrepid, journalists to partake of cannibal feasts or visit the widely but discreetly

advertised Soho establishment of Miss Whipple-Rodley ("Stern disciplinarian") in the interests of vice for one of the less expensive Sunday newspapers. (It was Christopher Ward who, parodying these features, ended with the immortal words, "I made an excuse and stayed.")

It happened many years ago, when I was a political correspondent; the duties of the office included going each year to the conferences of the three main parties and the TUC. (One of these days I shall publish my reminiscences of that period in my life, or rather threaten to, whereabouts I shall be paid such immense sums in hush-money that I shall be able to retire immediately. There was, for instance, a famous mayor-of—but I digress.) One year, at Blackpool, the Labour Party, which was conferring there, went into secret session on the Wednesday afternoon, to discuss finance. The press being excluded, each of us sought to spend the time productively; after inquiring of a passing Parsifal in the vicinity, and learning that there was not, that Reginald Dixon could be heard playing the Wurlitzer in the Tower Ballroom, if that would do, I retired to consult my friends in the ITN team. At that time, the electric men were fanatical golfers, and they told me that they were taking the

opportunity to have a round at a neighbouring links. And what, I demanded indignantly, about me? Was I to be left behind? Not at all, they said: I would be most welcome to come along. But said I, I could not play golf; indeed, I had never so much as held a golf club in my hand. They looked at each other for a moment in silence, which was broken by Mr George Fitch saying, "I know—why don't we teach him?"

Some of the others, one or two of whom knew me as well as did George, if not better, replied that I was clearly incapable, and that I would only spend my time complicating. But that said George, would be the fun of the thing; and so it came to pass that, equipped with a variety of "woods", "irons", "drivers", "putters", half-bottles of brandy" and other essential tools of the game, I played golf for the first time in my life, and so far, at any rate, the last.

I must say George was an extraordinarily good teacher, with the ability—hallmark of the true dominie—to impart knowledge and enthusiasm simultaneously, while never seeming to impose authority. If, for instance, I complained that I was cold, he would scream, "I don't give a sod if you are cold", and when, from time to time, I inquired whether I was holding the club correctly, or standing at the proper angle, he would bellow, "For God's sake shut up and just hit the bloody thing!"

On one occasion, I recall, I did hit the bloody thing. My ball had come to rest more or less in the middle of the fairway, and on an upward slope; I was thus under the necessity of sending the ball over a hill without knowing what lay on the other side of it. By some extraordinary chance, I connected with the ball first swing, and a mighty crack I caught it. Hastening to the brow of the hill amid the ironic cheers of my fellow-players, I saw immediately on the other side of it a delightful pond, into which my ball had irrevocably vanished.

It was a long afternoon, to be sure. Even before the experience I had been more or less convinced that golf should be considered as one of the three most elaborately pointless occupations to which human beings have ever applied themselves (the other two being stamp-collecting and, of course, ballet), and by the end of it I was quite certain. My biographers should note that I went round in 282 strokes and ruined a perfectly good pair of suede shoes. As for Mr Fitch, he should note that he is going to figure prominently in those candid memoirs of which I have spoken, and would be well advised to send the money now. By telegraphed money order, to "Golfer, St Andrews".

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shut up and just hit the bloody thing!"

One was a shishya (disciple) of the socialist triumvirate which JP (as we affectionately knew him) led in 1942, which organised the Quit India movement; after the Congress leaders were arrested in 1942, and which went underground to sabotage the British war effort. It never meant any violence to anyone.

JP was in his vibrant mid-thirties, with not the slightest suspicion that of either spending the best period of his manhood in jail or of challenging Nehru for power. The dialogues were mostly about reconciling Hinduism with Marxism:

Gandhiism with socialism; spiritual austerity with worldly plenitude.

It was a tragic accident that one of the socialist trinity, Yusuf Meherali, died before Independence; and the other, Aurobindo, was already preparing to join Nehru's government. The romantic, idealistic force in Indian politics was left to JP alone, who became a close adherent of Vinobha Bhave's land-for-the-less voluntary movement.

Intellectual, dreamer, wandering sage, JP is obsessed with a saintliness geared to our time, and of our time.

Mr Gandhi's imposition of the Emergency was an act not so much of an authoritarian as an opportunist. She declared

After Mrs Gandhi:

will laughter come back to India now?

Gandhi, bless his soul, cracked a good deal. Nehru had a sustained streak of mischief until, two years before his death, the Chinese border operation maintained she loved in more dearly than JP, who spoke of violence.

His successor, Shastri, had a coarse peasant talent for translating global concepts into pure corn. For example: he never spoke of the atom bomb, it was always bomb-golla, or candy-floss bomb.

The most cruel aspect of Mrs Gandhi's 11 years of rule was the slow eradication of laughter in a country where even a despotic court was graced by a jester, and the peasant in his parched field is still sustained by a grotesque joke or two.

It is said that she talked of the old guard Congress leaders as "a bunch of jokers", and though Parliament was packed with too many comedians, So, literally, the jokers were kicked out, and Parliament all but closed.

Gandhi, too, eradicated poverty. Roti, kapda, makhan, bread, clothing, and shekher-Sterilization. With deadly earnestness she set to organize campaigns which ignored the fundamental indulgence, the inherent good nature and softness of rural India. And, in Delhi, the sightiest evidence of happiness suggested a secret passion.

The Government by dossier searched for weaknesses of all the good things of the flesh that kept spirits high. Because the trains had to run on time, Mrs Gandhi, cool architect of the breakup with her home province, Shikhs in Pakistan has no contact with his home province, the Sind. Mrs Gandhi defected herself in her northern Uttar Pradesh. And yet, Uttar Pradesh remains the centre of power in the new electoral map: all 85 seats to the Opposition.

But the Hinduism of the north is now even stronger, allying itself with efficient Gujerat on the one hand, and, on the other, excepting Gandhi's share of the massive untouched vote.

Mrs Gandhi will have to establish herself in the southern Congress belt—but the Nehrus have traditionally despised, used, and discarded the south. India, bringing together the unorthodox leader, Jayaprakash Narayan, India's most authentic living Gandhian, correctly seized the mood of the people, and articulated their feelings. He said it was time to think of armed resistance.

When he was Chief Minister of Bombay we used to call him Morai-ji, and his favourite word then, as now, was still Then, as now, he could not understand women: then, as now, he confused personal morality with public good. He has a quiet sense of humour, and can tolerate good-natured ribbing, even in the press, but he can be, God help us, blinded by his paternalism.

India has not torn its past: it is a search for roots. The rediscovery of India would have to be based on a Hindu renaissance. But it would have to be an authentic Hinduism, which knows that the spirit of man is the theatre of a dialogue between his body and the eternal non-body.

It is the Hinduism which finds wisdom in the Gita and pleasure in the erotic poetry of the Gita Govinda. Hindus who will not renew themselves now could be a pain in the neck—like other orthodox Marxists.

It starts off well, this new Hinduism—with a sumptuous buffer stock of foodgrains, and \$3,000m in foreign exchange; the worst of the Nehru inheritance vividly played out a mass of people who live in the open; and who seemed to have voted not out of fear but for the romance in the Hindu condition.

Victor Anant

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Nothing can now detract from the overwhelming success of Alex Haley's Roots, the saga of black American history which has sold more than 1,500,000 copies in hardback in the United States. The television series based on the book (half of which was screened by the BBC over the holiday weekend) attracted record audiences in the United States.

Yahya arrived in London on Sunday night furious about an article in *The Sunday Times*, which questioned the reliability of the research Haley conducted into his own ancestry, which forms the dramatic core of the book. The article, by Mark O'Farrell, seeks to show that the man Haley believes founded his family in America could not have been taken as a slave from the West African village of Juffure, at the time Haley

With few written records to work on, Haley does not claim that his book is accurate in detail—and the television series, which cuts some corners for the sake of drama, is even less so. Yet he is still wounded by what he sees as an attempt to denigrate it.

A chubby man with greying temples, wearing a fawn cashmere jacket over dark brown trousers, he loosened his red striped tie and paced across his large suite at a Park Lane hotel. "I spent 12 years doing this book," he said. "And I resent any person who is obviously opportunistic spending seven days in Africa and then writing a story which seeks to blemish the deepest, strictest, most honest research I could do, given the materials I had to work with."

SOCIAL NEWS

The Duchess of Kent, as patron, will be present at a gala night at the Lakeside Country Club, Frimley, Surrey, in aid of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, on April 28.

The Duke of Kent, as chancellor, will visit Surrey University, on May 3.

Princess Alexandra will open a ship for the Cable and Wireless fleet at the Humble Graving Dock, Immingham, Humberside, on April 28.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr K. J. Stechey and Miss A. L. Lauriston. The engagement is announced between Janusz, son of Mr and Mrs W. Stechey, of Sonninghill, Berkshire, and Alexia, daughter of his Honour Judge and Mrs Clifford Lauriston, of Sunningdale, Berkshire.

Mr W. A. Dennison and Miss T. A. R. A. Brotherton. The engagement is announced between William Dennison, son of Mr and Mrs K. E. Dennison, of Lagos, Nigeria, permanent, and Mrs Bissinger, Florida, United States, and Tara, eldest daughter of Squadron Leader and Mrs Jain Brotherton, of Earlswood House, Pitton, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Dr A. D. Gosman and Miss M. J. Anstey. The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mrs V. Seibel, of British Columbia, and Margaret Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Anstey, of Welwyn Garden City.

Mr I. March and Miss J. O. Cannon. The engagement is announced between Kenneth, younger son of the late Mr and Mrs N. C. March, of Ashleigh House, Leamington, co. Warwick, and Jane, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs T. G. Cannon, of Cardyke House, Swaton, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

Captain L. H. Robertson and Miss A. E. Cautucuzene-Speransky.

The engagement is announced between Captain Larry Robertson, Irish Guards, youngest son of Captain and Mrs Michael Robertson, of Forbury, Blagdon, Bathshire, and Alexandra Elizabeth, daughter of Prince Michael Cautucuzene, Count Speransky, and Mrs James Edwards, of Heatherdown, Ascot, Berkshire.

Marriages

Mr H. Morgan Williams and Miss S. M. Lamb. The marriage took place very quietly at St Paul's Marigia parish church on Monday, April 11, between Mr Hugh Morgan Williams, son, and Miss Susan Lamb.

Mr T. P. Whistler and Mrs M. A. Obaid.

The marriage took place in London on Thursday, April 7, between Mr Thomas Whistler, of 57 Eversley House, Ruskin Gate, SW7, and Mrs Marion Obaid, of Jude Farmhouse, Kingsley, Bordon, Hampshire.

Christening

The infant son of the Rev Martin and the Hon Mrs Jason was christened Nicholas George by the Rev G. B. H. Sanderson on April 9, at St Michael's, Chestnut Gardens. The Godparents are Lord Strathearn, Mr Kenwyn Madoc-Wright, Mr Mark Haweck-Allan and Miss Jenny Nicholson.

Today's engagements

Princess Margaret attends gala performance of Maurice Béjart's Ballet of the Twentieth Century, London Coliseum, 7.30. More details on page 10, 36, 39.

Lecture: Some famous paintings and their details, by Audrey P. Tyndall, National Gallery, Traflagar Square, on the London tour. Ghost of the West End near Embankment station, 7.30.

Birthdays today

Marques Camenz, 78; General Sir Richard Godbody, 78; Miss Joan Grant, 70; Lord Inglesfield, 69; Lord McAlpin, 69; Sir Air Marshal Sir Harold Maguire, 65; Sir Donald Perrott, 75; Mr William Redpath, 64.



A snack being offered by a young admirer during the harness horse parade in Regent's Park, London, yesterday.

Carter list of 11 new ambassadors

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, April 11

President Carter has nominated 11 new ambassadors, including his choice for Britain, Dr Kingman Brewster, president of Yale University, interest now centres on whether to fulfil important posts as Moscow, Peking, Bonn and Paris.

The President's list included Mr Patrick Lucey, the Governor of Northern Ireland, to be Ambassador to Mexico; Mr W. Taylor Bennett, a career diplomat, to be permanent representative at Nato; Mr William Sulzby, now Ambassador to the Philippines to move to Iran; and Mr Wilbert Lee Melle, the sole black American in the list, to be Ambassador to Kenya and the Seychelles.

The others, whose nominations have been known for some time, were: Mr Philip Alston, an American lawyer, to Australia; Mrs Anna Cox Chambers, chairman of Atlanta Newspapers, to Belgium; Dr Robert Gold, ambassador to India; Mr Samuel Lewis, a career diplomat, to Israel; Mr Mike Mansfield, former Senate majority leader, to Japan; and Mr George Vass, a career diplomat, to Pakistan.

Memorial fund for children

An appeal for a Lady Allen of Hurtwood memorial trust fund was launched yesterday, the first anniversary of her death. She founded the World Organization for Early Childhood Education and the International Adventure Project.

The trust fund will be used to establish a travel scholarship to conduct and to expand Lady Allen's work for the rights of children, particularly the deprived and underprivileged. Applications should be sent to Mr Alan Swindley, director, Thomas Coram Foundation, 49 Brunswick Square, London WC1. Cheques should be made payable to the "Lady Allen Memorial Trust".

25 years ago

From The Times of Thursday, April 10, 1952

Mr L. G. Pine, managing editor of Burke's Peerage and Burke's Landed Gentry, in an address on "the decline of the landed gentry" at a meeting of the Society of Genealogists in London's惺惺相惜, said that Burke's Landed Gentry was becoming more and more a history book rather than a record of estates. Half the people in the 1932 edition were no longer "landed". It was a city, in his opinion, that the landed gentry was no longer in possession of this.

Many names were now recorded as being "formerly of such and such a place".

University news

Oxford Sept. 2. E. E. East, second in command of the Oxford division, Thames Valley Police, has been appointed university marshal in succession to Mr W. R. Skinner, who is retiring.

Cambridge

Appointments and elections SELBY COLLEGE: Fellow, commoner for Long Term, 1978; Miss Joan Grant, Bedford College, 60; Air Marshal Sir Harold Maguire, 65; Sir Donald Perrott, 75; Mr William Redpath, 64.

The Legacy Check List

May we suggest some additions to the considerations you generally apply to making bequests. In the changing conditions of today, we believe that it is wise to add the following questions:

1. Does the charity serve those in the greatest need, now and in the future?

Old people suffer the greatest deprivation almost everywhere—air health, housing, warmth and loneliness are usually at the end of the queue. Time is not on their side—Help the Aged is.

2. Does the charity mobilise volunteers to increase its effectiveness?

Help the Aged is helped by thousands of dedicated people, young and old. This is why it achieves so much with each £ donated.

3. Does the organisation show practical initiative in changing circumstances?

In the last ten years alone Help the Aged has pioneered nationwide flats for needy old people, day centres for the lonely, mini-buses for the housebound, a volunteer-distributed newspaper helpful to the old, aid for day hospitals, extra geriatric research, international help, and much more.

4. Will the value of the bequest be greatly reduced by inflation?

This aspect is given great attention by Help the Aged trustees. They endeavour to use funds for work that will give enduring benefit, and therefore will grow in value.

5. Can the donor retain a personal association with the work helped?

Help the Aged welcome such a link, for the charity sees itself as a channel for the compassion and goodwill of its donors. A whole scheme for the elderly in the UK can be named in conjunction with a £200,000 bequest; £150 inscribes a name on the dedication plaque of a day centre; £100 names a hospital bed in Asia or Africa.

Among the well-known people who endorse the value of a legacy to Help the Aged are Lord Shawcross, Lord Gardiner (the charity's president), Lady Spencer-Churchill, and General Sir Brian Horrocks.

Full details and an Annual Report & Accounts gladly sent on request to: The Hon. Treasurer, The Rt. Hon. Lord Braybrooke, Help the Aged, Room 31, 32 Dover Street, London, W1A 2AP.

Five-year trip to unravel Inca mysteries

By A Staff Reporter

A British archaeological expedition is leaving for the high Andes in June to search for answers to puzzling questions about the Incas and to help their modern descendants by restoring the Inca irrigation system to a barren valley, using the original masonry.

It is called the Cusichaca Project, and is sponsored by the Institute of Archaeology, London University, in association with Oxford and Liverpool universities.

The Cusichaca site, in the lower Urubambay Valley, near Cuzco, Peru, is 7,000ft above sea level, just above the transition between the highlands and the mountains.

It consists of a large Inca town and preceding settlements of at least three important periods of prehistory, representing three thousand years of continuous occupation.

The expedition will last for five years, and by next year there will be 20 archaeologists, botanists and zoologists working there. They will be led by Dr Ann Kendall, of the Institute of Archaeology, who has spent the past eight years in a long preparatory study of the Inca remains, carried out in conjunction with the Peruvian authorities.

Dr Kendall is taking her baby along 10 months with her to Peru; she will be with her child strapped to her back.

We know less about the life and culture of the Incas five centuries ago than we do about the Romans 20 centuries ago. In spite of their vast empire and complex social organization the Incas did not write, which makes it difficult to develop writing so far back.

This first British Inca expedition has two objects: to make an important contribution to unravelling the history and prehistory of the Central Andes, and to use the knowledge to solve modern Peruvian problems.

Stone Appeal Ball

The Stone Appeal Ball will be held at Stowey, Buckingham, on Saturday, May 21. Tickets, £2.50 with dinner or £1 after dinner, may be obtained from Mr David McDonough, 66 Limerton Street, London, SW1.

Episcopal Church in Scotland

The Very Rev D. A. Guthrie, Provost of the Episcopal Church in Scotland, has been issued an honorary canonry of St Columba's, Edinburgh.

The Very Rev G. F. Astbury, Vicar of St Georges, Leeds, has been appointed canon of St Columba's.

The Rev J. Wylam, curate in charge of St Swithun's, East Retford, and

Canon T. L. Livermore, formerly Rector of Poole, Diocese of Salisbury, has been appointed canon of Selby Abbey.

Diocese of Southwell

The Rev L. G. Cawsey, priest-in-charge of Averham, has been appointed canon of St Edmundsbury, Bishop of Lichfield, and Vicar of St Edmundsbury.

The Rev D. G. Carter, Vicar of St Leonard-on-Sea, has been appointed canon of St John's, Bishop of Chichester, and Vicar of St John's.

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Support grows for 'substantial increase' in IMF lending power

By Mervyn Westlake

A proposal for a "substantial" increase in the lending power of the International Monetary Fund is gaining widespread favour as a means of meeting the global trade imbalances caused by oil price increases. This is in addition to the money that Dr Johannes Witteveen, the IMF managing director, is trying to raise from Middle East oil-exporting nations and other countries with large trade surpluses like Japan and West Germany.

Mr Healey and his top Treasury aides are likely to throw their weight behind a still-confidential Fund plan to raise its members' quotas—*in effect, a nation's borrowing limit*—when finance and Treasury ministers representing all the IMF members meet in Washington in two weeks' time.

Precisely what order of increase in quotas is sought by IMF officials is not being disclosed, but it is thought to be significantly greater than the last rise of 30 per cent agreed just over a year ago. A further increase of over 50 per cent must therefore be envisaged.

If Dr Witteveen is able to report to the Washington meeting (which represents all IMF members on a constituency basis) that his efforts to raise more money for the fund has met with success, the pressure for a further expansion in quotas will lessen. But there is a growing feeling that a hefty increase in quotas is required as well.

British Treasury officials, for example, now believe that it is important to restore the real level of the IMF's financial resources to what it was in earlier years. The Fund's lending capability has become increasingly inadequate to deal with the enormous balance of payments deficits that have emerged since 1973.

The new lending facility that Dr Witteveen is trying to establish with money from the world's main surplus nations will provide only part of the

answer. The signs are that this facility might amount to about \$12,000m spread over three or four years.

However, the needs of the non-oil exporting third world countries alone are greater than that. The representatives of the developing countries at the Washington meeting are unlikely to be satisfied with any of the proposals so far advanced. For one thing, they dislike the economic and financial conditions applied to IMF loans.

They say that these conditions are often inappropriate and unrealistic in the context of many poor borrowers.

There is known to be divided opinions within the Fund itself over these conditions, particularly after the recent Cairo bread riots that followed Egypt's loan from the IMF. Many developing countries have preferred to borrow from the international money market rather than meet the IMF's conditions.

However, many of the more traditionally-minded creditor countries who are expected to contribute to Dr Witteveen's new lending facility favour conditionality as a way of forcing borrowers to accept greater financial discipline.

In opposing these moves, the developing countries seem certain to raise once again their demands that the IMF should make a fresh allocation of special drawing rights, an international monetary unit which can be used to finance balance of payments deficits instead of dollars or gold. No new allocations of SDRs have been made since the small disbursements that preceded the five-fold increase in the oil price.

Many of the big industrialised nations are against a further allocation because they feel that creating more international money will fuel world inflation. It is argued that there is no shortage of international money. The problem is its unequal distribution, and this can be corrected through the borrowing and lending activities of the IMF. This also enables the Fund to act as a kind of financial policeman.

Humber side may get development area aid

By Maurice Corrigan
Industrial Editor

The Department of Industry is urgently examining the case for granting development area status to Humber side. Last week, the Prime Minister and Mr. Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, met a number of local MPs to review the region's worsening problems, and Government action could now follow before the Grimsby by-election on April 28.

Such a move would be ironic, for it is 11 years since a previous Labour Government gave the go-ahead to the costly Humber Bridge during the campaign in the then critical North Hull by-election.

Mr Callaghan and Mr. Varley have, for some weeks, been studying the case for providing full government incentives to parts of north and south Humber side, concentrating on the main port conurbations of Hull and Grimsby. The local authorities have linked up with trade unions and MPs to persuade the

Government that action to help these areas is desperate, particularly because of the loss of fish trade.

Hull is particularly badly affected. Its problems have ranged over the years from the closure of Imperial Typewriters to the receivership of the dry-pool ship repairing business. Employers continue to cut back on their work forces. On Friday, a local confectionery firm, Needlers, paid off 300 workers. Later this year, the local Freightliner terminal is to shut down.

It is not unprecedented to grant development area status to particular areas. Several years ago, Merseyside was selected for special Government action. Mr. Varley now makes an on-the-spot visit before reporting back to the Prime Minister and, if the case for aid is accepted, an announcement could follow swiftly. The need to avoid humiliation in the forthcoming Grimsby by-election, in the seat formerly held by Mr. Anthony Crosland, is much in ministers' minds.

Carter curb may swell UK shoe imports

By Our Commercial Editor
Fears are growing among Britain's footwear makers of a of protectionist measures in the big rise in imports from the United States.

President Carter has set a deadline of the end of June to conclude orderly marketing arrangements with leading importers into the United States. Mainly involved are Taiwan and South Korea.

The British Footwear Manufacturers Federation fears this could mean about 100 million pairs a year being diverted mainly to the European market, with Britain as prime target.

This will inevitably strengthen demands in the industry for the federation to press the Government to set quotas for all imports except those from the European Com-

Clamp likely on retail price-setting practice

By Derek Harris
An exhaustive factual report on the still widespread use of recommended retail prices (RRP) in most sectors of industry and commerce has been completed by the Price Commission, and is being studied by Mr. Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

It sets the stage for what is expected to be a shake-up of this pricing practice as soon as the new Price Commission Bill, now going through Parliament, gives Mr. Hattersley additional powers to act.

The growing tide of opinion

against the use of RRP has already led manufacturers and retailers of most "brown" goods—such as television sets, radios and hi-fi equipment—to scrap the practice.

It has been confirmed that

the erosion has also begun in the "white" goods sector, with

Morphy Richards, part of GEC Schreiber, planning "in the not too distant future" to drop RRP on all its products.

Morphy Richards is a major supplier in the United Kingdom of toasters, irons and other electrical appliances. Its policy switch could be a key factor in persuading other manufacturers in this sector to drop RRP.

But it is significant that there are no plans so far for RRP to be dropped by sections of GEC Schreiber, a merged company in which GEC hold a majority stake, in the manufacture of larger "white" goods such as refrigerators and freezers. Hotpoint is a major manufacturer in the GEC Schreiber stable.

There appears to be considerable resistance to dropping RRP by the makers of larger "white" goods. One of the main arguments for retention of RRP is that without such a base list, an integral part of national advertising campaigns, the public has no benchmarks against which to judge prices in the shops.

Typically, retail outlets will offer goods at a percentage off RRP, but there has been mounting criticism of some RRP levels being pitched artificially high.

Last September, the Price Commission completed a survey on RRP among small electrical appliances, and found the pricing system potentially misleading. The Commission concluded that RRP should be discontinued in this sector because consumers might be induced to buy under the impression they were getting a better bargain than they actually were.

The Commission found actual retail prices averaged 20 per cent below those recommended by appliance manufacturers.

The Radio, Electrical and Television Retailers' Association (RETRA), which brought pressure on the "brown" goods makers to abolish RRP, plans talks soon with all the "white" goods manufacturers. RETRA is convinced that present systems relying on RRP or similar benchmarks—such as the "reasonable" prices now being quoted in some sectors—are so misleading and confusing that the whole practice should be stopped.

Although the Government has some powers to act on RRP practices under the Fair Trading Act, it can be a lengthy procedure. When the new price control powers become law, Mr. Hattersley will be able to act more decisively. It will be possible to prohibit advertising of RRP or even the setting of RRP by manufacturers.

But first the Price Commission will have to investigate a sector and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State.

The factual report, without any recommendations, which the Commission has now passed to Mr. Hattersley, will enable him to identify the sectors most calling for investigation.

Japan supports dollar as yen soars to three-year peak

By Our Commercial Editor

Fears are growing among

Britain's footwear makers of a of protectionist measures in the big rise in imports from the United States.

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deadline of the end of June to

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Mainly involved are Taiwan and

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This will inevitably

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industry for the federation to

press the Government to set

quotas for all imports except

those from the European Com-

mission.

Workers' co-op forum

A one-day conference has

been arranged by the Depart-

ment of Industry later this

month to promote informal dis-

cussions on the establishment of

workers' cooperatives and com-

mon ownership of businesses.

Ministers will take part in the

payments over three years on the average car (in the 1900-1400 cc range), by 1976 the statutory maximum of two years for repayments, taken with the 80 per cent increase in the average cost of cars in this range in the intervening period, meant that he had to devote 31.2 per cent of his disposable income to repayments on such a purchase. Had he been permitted to spread his repayments over 36 instead of 24 months, 23.3 per cent of his disposable income would have gone on repayments.

Discussions arranged against the background of the Industrial Common Ownership Act, 1976, introduced as a private member's Bill with Government support.

US steel pay rise

The most important United

States wage dispute of 1977 has

been settled with a contract that

is bound to raise fears in

America of mounting inflation.

About 340,000 steel industry

workers are to receive basic pay

rises of 10 to 15 per cent over

the next three years, plus

fringe benefits likely to add at

least 10 per cent a year to the

industry's wages bill.

Pay chaos feared

Growing concern over the

possible introduction of "kinky

bargaining" in the next phase

of pay policy is being expressed

by employers in London and

Ministers.

Call to ease car credit from finance houses

Another plea for an extension of the repayment period for motor cars bought on credit is made by Mr. Ronald Barnes, the chairman of the Finance Houses Association, in his annual statement published today.

Figures assembled by the association during the year showed that whereas in 1973 the average earner required just under 19 per cent of his disposable income to meet the re-

quirements of National Savings, which appears to have risen off

much of the money that would otherwise have found its way

into the societies.

More positively, Mr. Roy Cox, chief general manager of the Alliance, welcomes a cut in rates and says that "despite the uncertainties there should be a minimum 1 per cent cut."

Market forces aside, however,

the Government has also ap-

peared on the scene with some

gentle arm-twisting. In Mr. Healey's recent remarks that an early reduction in mortgage

rates "can be expected,"

he was referring to the

Building Societies Association.

Pressure for a reduction from the present 12½ per cent has been steadily mounting this year with the general fall in consumer interest rates. Last Thursday's further 2 point fall in minimum lending rate to 9½ per cent could also have been

expected.

Even in the societies them-

selves are making it apparent

that the downward trend in

interest rates is here to stay, since

many are still acutely conscious

of the way they were wrong-

footed last autumn by the sharp

rise in interest rates just after

they had trimmed mortgage

rates.

Mr. Raymond Potter, chair-

man of the Building Societies

Association, gives warning that

"any sharp reduction is un-

likely and it seems that some

favour a phased cut in mortgage

rates. Following the slump in

monthly receipts to under

£25m at the end of last year,

the pick-up this year has not

been pronounced as hoped.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Defusing the gilt market

The Bank of England/Treasury money team have had a tough time of it coping with financial markets since the turn of the year, albeit that the battle they have been waging has been a very different one to that which they were fighting for much of last year.

Moreover, this year's struggle has been misconceived and unnecessary—not to mention only partly successful. But such reflections are hardly likely to have deterred the team from retiring for the Easter holiday with at least two grounds for satisfaction.

First, the launching of two partly paid gifts can be counted as something of a success, even if the massive response to the initial issue may not have been welcomed at the time. The outcome anyway is that the market has already committed itself to funding perhaps £750m-£800m of the Government's needs in the mid-April/mid-July quarter.

At the same time, the much smaller application for the second issue means that the authorities are also left with their first "top" in the near end of the market—or in any part of the market for that matter—for almost three months.

The second reason for satisfaction must be the way in which the gilt market has turned easier over the past few days. Apart from cutting back the subscription to the new Exchequer stock, the general feeling is that this may encourage official sterling holders to switch out of their gilt holdings into the new foreign currency bonds on offer—these holders having been offered the facility of switching out of their gilds at April 1 prices.

That may perhaps be too simplistic a view of the kind of factors that may help to influence decisions. Many of the official overseas holders will in any case want to keep working balances in sterling, and others may now be much happier to keep investment funds in sterling as a longer-term proposition than they were, say, six months ago.

Even so, it is interesting to think that at the end of last year official overseas holdings of gilds totalled £1,100m and that in buying in at least part of this amount the authorities could be left with a portfolio of mainly stocks covering a wide range of maturities. A further thought must be that if the authorities do prove successful in reducing these sterling balances, logic would seem to require further measures to prevent the accumulation of other, possibly more volatile, balances.

The FMC debacle Borthwick's miscalculation

Time alone will tell if there is any advantage to FMC in the NFU Development Trust assuming full control although the links have been as umbilical over the past year or so that it cannot make much difference.

Even so, the Trust's 97p cash offer is more than double the price before all the bid talk blew up and is at a level which the prospective p/e ratio of around 8 and yield of 9½ per cent on FMC's forecasts would be difficult to sustain on future prospects alone.

For its part, Borthwick has been left with as much egg on its face as after its flotation which the underwriters had to take up 58½ per cent of the equity. Back in February I commented on the bid rumours by saying that "the chances of any potential bidder getting its claws on FMC are pretty remote".

It looks as though Borthwick completely misunderstood the Trust's entrenched position. Even when the Trust only held



Dr Bill Bullen, chairman of Thomas Borthwick: advanced corporation tax problem remains unresolved.

43 per cent Borthwick could never have succeeded in going over its head to the other shareholders, while not even the prospect of a handsome capital gain and chance of a substantial stake in the new enlarged grouping was enough for the Trust to part with its most valuable asset—a secure marketing outlet for its members' produce.

Borthwick is not going to be able to find such a heaven-sent opportunity in the near business for United Kingdom expansion as he believes it advance corporation tax problems in a hurry, although Pork Farms' shares have been active recently on thoughts of a Borthwick offer.

Meanwhile, it would be no surprise if Borthwick itself attracted a bid.

Inflation accounting Grinding to a halt?

With the exposure period for considering the proposed Current Cost Accounting system now more than two-thirds complete, the scale of disagreement which has emerged on the subject makes it virtually inconceivable that the ambitious timetable for introducing it can now be met. The question is whether, if it has not yet passed back, the chances of it finally being introduced are diminished.

The Morpeth Committee suggested that the first companies should begin reporting CCA profits in their accounting periods after July 1, 1978. But although some accountants are still hoping it will be possible to preserve enough of Morpeth's original proposals to come up with a definitive accounting standard in time, it seems more than likely that revisions will have to be so extensive as to make a further exposure period inescapable.

On certain things there is general agreement. Most people talk in terms of simplification of Morpeth (by which is meant some rewording and the stripping out of peripheral issues like leasing, deferred tax and so on). There is also a widespread demand for a tightening up on the discretionary element in the appropriation account. But there remains a fundamental problem over monetary items and over whether there should actually be an appropriation account.

The banks have put forward a vigorous case for inclusion of allowances for monetary items in the main body of the profit and loss account, and they have won broad backing from within the accounting profession. The main obstacle lies in Whitehall, which is backing the general

concept of CCA, but is resisting the case for adjustments in the profit and loss account for monetary items and is resisting even more strenuously the suggestion that a special case should be made for banks.

Whitehall's position may not be completely inflexible, but its present talk of a "straight-through" profit and loss account—effectively tacking on the appropriation account to the end of the profit and loss account—does not begin to meet the banks' arguments.

There remains the question of tax. It is true that a lot of companies are not actually paying any tax beyond the Advanced Corporation Tax associated with dividends, and a great many have nothing at all to fear under CCA. But in industry there is a strong desire to know precisely what the Inland Revenue's attitude towards taxing CCA profits is.

The Revenue's view, on the other hand, appears to be that it will not be able to make its position clear until it knows exactly what CCA profits are going to look like. The debate is looking remarkably deadlocked.

Investment trusts Radical thinking

Since the market continues to take a jaundiced view of investment trusts, it looks as though some of the more radical solutions to the problems of big discounts, earlier mooted but temporarily abandoned in the activity since the turn of the year, will have to be resurrected.

One of these is the idea that investment trusts should be permitted to buy their own shares, thereby reducing the capitalization of the sector. At the moment there are legal obstacles to such a course, relating mainly to the protection of creditors (of which investment trusts have relatively few).

But there are, people within the industry feel, moral objections as well, in that any moves to permit such action to investment trusts would give them a preferential status not accorded to other companies.

Nevertheless, the Association of Investment Trusts has a sub-committee now looking into the possibility, which is likely to report to its members within six months or so.

Other alternatives, more complex in their operation but possibly more dramatic in their impact, hinge on the question of whether a scheme can be hatched which would permit investment trust managers to pay off some of their shareholders at asset value while maintaining for those who remain in the cheap loan capital which, in the case of Standard, for example, proved such a point of contention in the valuation of the bid. But it may take another such bid to bring these into the open.

Meanwhile, as the management of Standard Trust so vigorously asserted in their attempts to ward off their unwanted suitor, the British Rail Pension Fund, many of Standard's shareholders wanted to keep their money in managed funds, then The Stock Exchange account which opens today should see a fair amount of it coming back into the sector following the Prudential's successful last-minute counter-bid.

Given that the takeover has in any case reduced the overall capitalization of the investment trust sector by some £40m, such an inflow of funds should in theory have some impact on the discounts at which the shares of other investment trusts are standing to their net asset value.

Failure of strict rules on petrol price advertising at garages and filling stations, backed up by legislation, should, if plans from the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection are implemented, end the misleading "10p off" signs that still persist in many parts of the country.

Discounts in one form or another have been available to petrol retailers for nearly two years and they are producing changes in motorists' petrol buying habits. Small neighbourhood garages in towns that for years have relied on a rambling local trade, are now finding that their customers, particularly commuters by car, are filling up at cut-price garages on the major routes into conurbations.

Oil company surveys have also shown that motorists are often prepared to make quite long detours to find cut-price petrol—detours that sometimes cost more in petrol than the saving made at the discount pump.

This changing pattern of petrol buying has resulted in more garages closing down in the large conurbations with the large and well equipped self-service stations gaining more and more of the market.

Many petrol retailers have hoped that the petrol price war would cease before too many of them went out of business. But the continued contraction of the industry has been ensured by the decision of the major oil companies not to allow their share of the petrol market to decline any further, and the only way they can do this is by continuing discount support for their retail outlets.

Petrol suppliers in the United Kingdom are now roughly divided into three categories. There are the major international oil groups—Shell, Esso, British Petroleum, and Texaco that market throughout the country.

While these rural motorists can still hope for some relief from tax, there is no likelihood that the large variations in petrol prices will disappear—at least not for several years. It is not just rural garages that are charging top prices for petrol. Many urban areas have not seen any real petrol bargains since the height of the nationwide

petrol price war in 1975-76.

The best motorists in these areas can expect a 1p to 2p a gallon discount given by the garage proprietor out of his own profit margin.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

restrictions on the workings of ACAS

Mr P. M. Elton
In Mortimer's letter of 13 April he stresses the impartiality and independence of ACAS. However, what he does not explain are the actions which are placed in ACAS in its role.

Section 1 (3) of the Employment Protection Act, which is the section of the Act setting up ACAS says "The service shall be charged with the general duty of promoting the improvement of industrial relations, and in particular of encouraging the extension of collective bargaining and... collective bargaining machinery". Therefore any employer involved in a strike or union dispute in which ACAS becomes involved, could easily expect to receive advice other than that calculated to encourage the extension of collective bargaining. After all, that is what Parliament has asked them to do!

Yours faithfully,
P. M. ELTON,
Group Industrial Relations Manager,

The Color Group Limited,
Color House,
Windsor Road,
Slough SL1 2EQ.
April 5.

From Mr Paul Nicolson
Sir, Mr J. E. Mortimer (April 4), chairman of ACAS, states that ACAS is not a government department but an independent organization created to help employers and unions in their industrial relations difficulties.

Schedule 1 of the Employment Protection Act 1975 states that "the functions of

Nube and staff associations in clearing banks

From Mr Wilfred Aspinall

the service and of its officers and servants shall be performed on behalf of the Crown... shall not be subject to directions of any minister of the Crown as to the manner in which it is to exercise its functions."

It goes on to state that for the purposes of civil proceedings the relevant Acts of Parliament shall apply to the service as if it were a government department or a public department.

It seems that the service has the legal standing of a government department not subject to the direction of any minister of the Crown. The Secretary of State for Employment appoints the chairman who then becomes an employee of the Crown. The council which controls ACAS is also appointed by the Secretary of State for Employment but with the chairman, is not accountable to him.

Members of the council are drawn from the TUC, the CBI and independent academics. They should develop a mutually supportive influence in industrial relations areas like Cass's wife, he above the suspicions, however unworthy, of employers' unions both independent and affiliated to the TUC, and the workers.

Mr Mortimer did not mention the workers in his letter.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL NICOLSON,
General Secretary,
Confederation of Employees Organisations,
39 High Street,
Wheatheathstead,
St Albans,
Hertfordshire, AL4 8DG.

The 12½% surge of inflation

From Mr R. C. Bainbridge

Sir, Yesterday the Government published a new Bill to restrain prices after current legislation expires on July 31. My bill for water rates 1977-78 arrived yesterday and for the fifth year running the amount has been increased, this time by 12½ per cent.

A blind printed note from the divisional manager of the Thames Water Authority informs me that "the increase is broadly consistent with and is accounted for by the trend of cost inflation since the present

charges were determined in February, 1976".

Faced with this smooth farce can any Thames Water customer believe that as monopoly suppliers the authority has made the slightest effort to contain its charges? Perhaps one of your more learned readers could estimate the cost of breathing nowadays and consuming another cigarette—air?

Yours faithfully,
R. C. BAINBRIDGE,
7 Consort House,
26 Queenway,
London, W2 3RX.

Index-linked quasi-state pensions

From Mr E. T. C. Vincent
Sir, Now that the indexing of Civil Service pensions is being reconsidered, it would be instructive to know in which quasi-Government organizations have thought it necessary to index-link the pensions of their former employees, and by how much their prices or charges

have been increased in consequence.

Can the facts be ascertained and made public?

Yours faithfully,
E. T. C. VINCENT,
21 Ruden Way,
Epsom Downs,
Surrey, KT17 3LL.

April 4.

have

been

increased

in consequence.

Yours faithfully,
R. F. D. REED,
30 Chelsea Towers,
Chelsea Manor Gardens,
London, SW3 5PN.

April 1.

have

been

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April 1.

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The board will consider pay-

FINANCIAL NEWS

Government's change of heart cheers Property Federation

By John Brennan

A note of cautious optimism has been creeping into statements by the British Property Federation lately. The Federation's usually doom-laden warnings about Government hostility towards the industry have melted, in line with the Government's more receptive approach to the criticism of its property legislation. In his statement accompanying the Federation's 1976 report Sir Richard Thompson, who retired as President at the annual meeting on May 3, sees signs of a revival in the industry's fortunes.

Sir Richard writes that "at the start of 1976 there were good grounds for thinking that the property industry, having survived the worst effects of the collapse of 1974-5 was set for a slow but steady improvement. Our major cause for

satisfaction was the clear recognition by the Government earlier in 1975 that control of commercial rents and policy fraught with disaster and that no matter how unpopular the property industry might still be in official circles, a healthy property market was vitally important to the economy of the nation". Sir Richard notes that in the event the effects of inflation and the "staggering" increase in interest rates "combined to exacerbate all the problems which the industry had seemed to be

overcoming under the new regime". Sir Richard does, however, see a marked improvement in the economic climate in recent months, and he echoes the industry-wide feeling that "the mounting shortage of new accommodation must be reflected in higher commercial rents before too long". Residential landlords, who

make up the mass of the Federation's membership, take some cheer from Sir Richard's statement. He writes that "At long last the Government recognises that its rent legislation has failed. Far from easing the housing shortage and helping the homeless, it has dried up the supply of flats and bed-sitters for private renting turning untold numbers of prospective, willing tenants into squatters..."

Federation proposals for revision of the Rent Act will be discussed with Ministry of Environment officials in the coming months and Sir Richard writes that "it must be a source of relief and satisfaction to all involved in the long-abused and neglected residential sector that a fresh start is in prospect, and that it is officially recognized that the private landlord has a positive contribution to make..."

Man Garages starts in good style

The first two months at Manchester Garages have brought better profits than a year ago, but R. A. Stodley, the chairman, sees that the results for the rest of the year may prove to be more difficult from the trading point of view. However this Ford main dealer is used to such conditions and "should be well equipped to deal with marketing problems which may occur in the short term".

Given that the benefits of North Sea oil are reflected in the spending power of the consumer, the group should have an "excellent" future profit potential.

Lorho-Suits

At the request of Scottish & Universal Investments, the Takeover Panel has reviewed the circumstances of the recent sale to Lorho of 7.45 million shares in Suits at 95p each—24 per cent of the equity—by Sir Hugh Fraser, his family and friends. The panel has concluded that no obligation under the code to extend an offer for the balance on the same terms arises from the transaction.

Provident Financial

Lord Chelmer, chairman of Provident Financial Group, said that should the Chancellor of the Exchequer propose part of the Finance Act 1977, the company should be able to increase its total ordinary dividend for 1976 by a further 0.088p a share, without contravening the restraint guidelines.

The board will consider pay-

ing this amount as a supplement to the 1976 dividend if, and when, the new tax rate becomes effective. It expects to pay the additional amount when they pay an interim in October 1977.

J. Compton, Sons
Turnover of J. Compton, Sons and Webb (Holdings) fell last year, from £19.75m to £19.13m. However, profits before tax went up from £2.23m to £2.38m. The 1975 profit was after charging sums of £163,000, while there were no similar charges on 1976's profits. The gross payment rises from 2.30p to 2.6p, earnings per share climbed from 5.78p to 5.94p.

Upton tumbles

In the year to January 25 turnover of E. Upton & Sons rose from £4.29m to £4.51m, but profits fell from £73,000 to £26,000. Profits include a special credit of £23,000 on the sale of property. The dividend is held at 5.46p gross. Upton operates department stores and retail shops.

Rockware deal

Rockware Group has purchased Strelcos Plastics, a plastics container maker based in Norwich. The consideration of £251,000 has been satisfied by the payment of £182,000 in cash and the issue of 140,000 ordinary shares of Rockware to complete fully paid. The new ordinary shares being issued will receive the recommended final dividend to be paid for the year to January 2.

This follows opposition to the merger from a shareholders' committee which objects to the acquisition by the merged company of Worldwide Group. The Worldwide shareholders criticized this £250,000 deal, and urged shareholders to vote against the merger in order to prevent it.

Vosper may look abroad after 'N-day'

Now that the nationalization of part of the group's business is certain, Sir David Brown, chairman of Vosper Thornycroft hints that the group's interests will now turn overseas. His annual report says that it may build up its interests in Singapore, and on the Continent, but until the board has the amount and timing of compensation which the group will be receiving from the Government, it is extremely difficult to make any firm plans.

On March 15, the board transferred the shipbuilding business to Vosper Thornycroft (U.K.) and the shiprepairs to Vosper Shiprepairs. The reorganization is designed to "avoid the risk of the whole group being swept into the nationalization net". Also, the group's name is to revert to Vosper Ltd.

Deal delayed at Globe & Phoenix

Mr Fraser Bird, chairman of both Globe and Phoenix Gold Mining and Phoenix Mining and Finance, says in a letter to shareholders that he will propose an adjournment to May 9 of Thursday's meeting called to consider a merger of the two companies.

This follows opposition to the merger from a shareholders' committee which objects to the acquisition by the merged company of Worldwide Group. The Worldwide shareholders criticized this £250,000 deal, and urged shareholders to vote against the merger in order to prevent it.

Business appointments

Esso chief to head UK advice panel

Dr A. W. Pearce has been made chairman of the United Kingdom Petroleum Industry Advisory Committee. He is also managing director and chief executive of Esso Petroleum. Following the retirement of Mr C. F. Hedgesdon and Mr F. F. E. Allen, Mr E. J. Gordon Henry has become director and chairman of Western Insurance Agencies. Mr S. W. Green has been made non-executive director and Mr P. G. Turpin a director. Mr Gordon Henry also becomes a director and chairman of West Marine Non-Marine Insurance Managers, and Mr Turpin a director.

Mr P. D. Pettman, Mr S. G. Raggatt and Mr J. P. Millar have been appointed members of Williams de Broe Hill Chaplin. Mr G. R. Fletcher, Mr R. E. Park and Mr I. A. Shillie have joined the board of High Duty Alloys Castings.

Mr Jones Hinde has been made non-executive director of ERA. Mr John Anderson has joined the board of John Walker & Sons.

Mr Jeremy Grindell, managing director of Stewart Supermarkets of Belfast, becomes a non-executive director of Fine Fare. Mr David Woodward, company secretary, joins the board.

Mr G. A. Oakes has been made managing director and chairman of Corning Glass Works, in place of Mr Floyd Hankin, who has become deputy managing director of Europe, for Corning Glass Works.

Mr Bill Burgess is now director and general manager of TAC's building and insulation division. He succeeds Mr Will Peasey, who is to be director-general of the Associated Information Committee from June.

Mr C. L. R. Hart and Mr I. R. Poag have been made directors and elected joint chairman of Almondstone Holders Underwriting. Mr C. L. R. Hart and Mr I. R. Poag have been appointed additional directors of Ingerstoll Group. Mr B. M. Lindsay Fynn and Mr A. S. John have resigned from the board.

Mr Alan Clock and Mr Irving Benjamin have joined the board of Hirsel and Mallinson.

Mr C. Pilkiss and Mr E. Lycett join the board of Anglo-American Investment and Finance. Mr J. J. Aspinwall, Mr R. Lasseter, Mr R. V. Low, Mr B. Tigrett and Mr P. D. Hillwood have resigned.

Mr Richard Hayes has been made director of Hinton Hill International.

Mr H. Barlow Farr, vice-president, general counsel and secretary of IBM World Trade Corporation-Europe, Middle East and Africa, which is the general counsel of IBM-Europe, will resign these posts on June 1 to become vice-president and general counsel of the Singer Company.

Mr A. Zarifian-Zarifi has been appointed chairman of Mates.

Mr Ian Coley and Mr Michael Howard are to join the board of Fitch & Company.

Mr K. G. Brooks has been made a director of Stewart Wrightson (Marine).

Mr A. F. E. Packer has been appointed to the board of Trident Television.

Babcock, RTZ, Assoc Biscuits and Glynwed

Results this week

INTERNATIONAL: Equity Income Test. Final: Channel Islands International Inv Trs, Cohen Bros (Elect), John Finlan and Taylor Pallister.

WEDNESDAY

INTERNATIONAL: Burndene Inv, North Atlantic Seas Corp, and Wade Porteries. Finals: A. G. Stanley Hedges, Armagh Bros, Babcock & Wilcox, Blackwood Hodge, Horace Cory, I. J. Dewhurst, Dickinson-Robinson Grp, Edinburgh Inv Trs, Farm Field E. Fogarty, Glyndwr, Great Northern Telegraph, Henry Boot & Sons, S. Jerome and Poster, Modern Engineers of Bristol (Holds), Weeks Blake Burne, Weeks Associates and Wilmett Breeden.

THURSDAY

INTERNATIONAL: Dowding & Mills, Wm Jacks, M. P. Kent, Linseed, Pahang Consolidated, Photo-Me

FRIDAY

INTERNATIONAL: Coronation Syndicate, Kwik Save, MTD (Mangals), and Tweefontein United Collieries. Finals: Brown Boveri Kent, Geo Kent, Lowland Inv, Morgan Crucible, and Senior Eng.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

\$4,870m bond issues peak in first quarter

The 14-year-old Eurobond market appears to be undergoing a structural change that could lead to further growth and diversity among borrowers, analysts say, reports AP-Dow Jones.

The first quarter new Eurobond issue volume reached a record \$4,870m, compared with \$3,000m in the fourth 1976 quarter and \$3,700m in the first 1976 quarter. Undoubtedly there were many reasons for the first quarter boom.

Interest rates were low, at least in relation to the past few years, so borrowing was encouraged. Several governments continued to encourage Eurobond issues as a way of obtaining balance-of-payments finance. But perhaps the most significant development was participation of commercial banks as borrowers.

Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank ..	9 1/2%
Consolidated Credits ..	9 1/2%
First London Secs ..	9 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co. ..	9 1/2%
Lloyd's Bank ..	9 1/2%
Midland Bank ..	9 1/2%
Nat Westminster ..	9 1/2%
Rossmoorster Acc's ..	9 1/2%
Shenley Trust ..	14%
Williams & Glyn's ..	9 1/2%

* 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under. ** Up to £25,000. *** Over £25,000.



- The World's largest manufacturer of industrial suction cleaners

Euromarkets

Indeed, including both fixed and floating-rate Eurobond issues, banks accounted for \$875m or about 18 per cent of the amount floated in the first quarter.

While banks could have several motives for floating bond issues, an important consideration is the need to match medium-term bank lending with medium-term sources of funds.

"I think medium-term lending is an area that will expand much more rapidly than the traditional areas of bank lending," Herr Juergen Ponto, managing director of Dresdner Bank, states. "For this reason you will see a great deal more bank issues in the Eurobond market," he says.

Dresdner Bank has announced plans to float DM395m six-year convertible notes bearing 5.25 per cent through its Luxembourg subsidiary de la Dresdner Bank. In addition, both Deutsche Bank and Union Bank of Switzerland have disclosed similar plans for equity-linked Eurobond issues of around \$125m each.

Herr Ponto said he thought these convertible issues represented just the beginning of a trend toward equity-linked Eurobond issues by banks. "It's just the tip of the iceberg," he said.

In the week's Eurobond activity, most of the large volume of new issues appeared to be well oversubscribed. However, not all of the issues fared well in aftermarket trading, suggesting that some of the paper got into loose hands.

The biggest success of last week was a \$100m 10-year issue of Bell Canada. Though the issue was increased in size by \$25m and the coupon cut a quarter point, the issue was very firm in aftermarket trading at 99.5-100 compared with the offering price of par.

In contrast, a \$125m 10-year issue of Ontario Hydro bearing 8.0 per cent fell to a discount in the aftermarket. The issue, which was increased from \$100m, was priced at 100.5 to yield 7.93 per cent or 18 basis points more than the Bell Canada issue. Yet, despite the advance in yield, the Ontario province-guaranteed bonds fell to 98.88-99.38.

Among other offerings during the week was a \$30m seven-year note issue of Privatbanken.

More share prices

The following will be added to the London and Regional Share Price List tomorrow and will be published daily in Business News:

Investment Trust
Tribune Inv. Trust.

M. J. H. NIGHTINGALE & CO. LIMITED	Price Change	Gross Yield	P/E
62-63 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8EP. Tel: 01-638 8651			
Capitalisation	Friday week Divid.		
Company	Yield		
1,750 Airsprung Ord	35	— 4.2	12.0
303 Airsprung 18% CULS	120	— 18.5	15.4
750 Armitage & Rhodes	30	— 3.0	10.0
1,490 Deborah Ord	111	+ 2	8.2
1,250 Deborah 17% CULS	125	— 17.5	14.0
17,335 Frederick Parker	120	— 12.5	9.6
4,592 Henry Sykes	55	— 2.4	4.4
11,179 James Burrough	81	— 6.0	7.4
2,443 Robert Jenkins	240	+ 4	25.0
3,205 Twinklin Ord	15	—	—
1,638 Twinklin 12% ULS	61	— 12.0	19.7
2,394 Unilock Holdings	55	+ 1	6.1
4,864 Walter Alexander	77	— 5.8	7.5
	87	—	8.7

New blood to fuel Booker

By Adrienne Gleeson

Most of the "substantial increase" in profits for which Booker McConnell is looking this year will come from the food distribution division—which contributed £47.7m to last year's £15.9m trading profits, and which has roughly doubled in size following the acquisition of Kinloch (Provision Merchants), in January.

But in addition, the general engineering division, which went into the red by more than £1m at the trading level last year because of the "lamentable loss" made by one subsidiary on overseas contracts, is expected to turn round this time.

And there should be a "signifi-

cant" contribution to the profits of this division from last year's acquisition, Central Wagon—although the chairman, Sir George Bishop, says in his annual report that the group is still faced with the task of overcoming the difficulties confronting this business to secure from it a proper profit contribution.

With shareholders' funds only marginally ahead at £51.76m, the balance sheet shows the effects of nationalization of the Guyana sugar interests early on last year—the reserves were written down by £5.59m and there was an addition £1.76m charged as an extraordinary item to the profit and loss account. The estimated amount realizable on eventual liquidation of the Guyanese companies and maturity of the government notes with which the company was compensated is put at £10.95m.

Nevertheless, reflecting seasonal buoyancy in the liquidity of the increasingly important food distribution division, the year-end balance sheet looks remarkably healthy, with total net borrowings down from £10.27m to £5.39m, despite the inclusion of some £4.5m in Central Wagon borrowings on the consolidation of that company.

Capital commitments totalling £22.5m take in some £12m paid on the acquisition of Kinloch after the year-end.

Weekly list of fixed interest stocks

Latest	Prev	Latest	Prev
Ald & Wilson 7% Deb	63	63	60%
Alnwick Hedges 7% Deb	52	52	52%
Anglo 6% Deb 1979	52	52	52%
Anglo 7% Deb 1981	57	57	57%
Anglo 8% Deb 1983	58	58	58%
ABF Foods 5% Deb 1978	20	20	20%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 1978	71	71	71%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 1979	62	62	62%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 1981	57	57	57%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 1983	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 1985	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 1987	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 1989	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 1991	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 1993	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 1995	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 1997	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 1999	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2001	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2003	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2005	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2007	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2009	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2011	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2013	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2015	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2017	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2019	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2021	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2023	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2025	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2027	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2029	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2031	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2033	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2035	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2037	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2039	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2041	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2043	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2045	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2047	58	58	58%
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ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2051	58	58	58%
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ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2067	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2069	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2071	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2073	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2075	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2077	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2079	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2081	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2083	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2085	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2087	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2089	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2091	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2093	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2095	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2097	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2099	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2101	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2103	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2105	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2107	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2109	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2111	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2113	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2115	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2117	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2119	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2121	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2123	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2125	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2127	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2129	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2131	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2133	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2135	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2137	58	58	58%
ASOC Elec 6% Deb 2139	58</td		

Salerooms and Antiques



8 King Street, St. James's
London SW1Y 6QT. Tel: 01-839 9060
Telex 916429 Telegrams CHRISTIART
London SW1

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13
English and French Silver. The Properties of the late Dame Betty Oliver, Winchester College and others. Catalogue (4 plates) 45p.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14
English and Continental Furniture and Objects of Art. The Properties of the late John Ness-Walker and others. Catalogue 35p.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15
English Pictures, c. 1700-c. 1900. The Properties of R. G. A. Etherington-Smith Esq., The Executors of the late Earl of Hardwicke, The Executrix of the late J. H. Hawes, Esq., and others. Catalogue 35p.

MONDAY, APRIL 18
Fine Chinese and Korean Ceramics and Works of Art. The Properties of Mrs. Yehudi Mehtaun, The President and Council of Cheltenham College and others. Catalogue (45 plates, including 3 in colour) 22.10.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19 at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
Fine Japanese Ceramics, Lacquer and Bronzes. The Properties of the late John Ness-Walker and others. Catalogue (64 plates, including 1 in colour) £1.80.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19
Art Nouveau, Art Deco and Studio Pottery. The Properties of the late Winifreda, Countess of Portarlington and others. Catalogue (10 plates) 55p.

SALES OVERSEAS

IN GENEVA
AT THE HOTEL RICHEMOND
MONDAY, APRIL 25 at 3 p.m.
Fine German Porcelain. Catalogue £2.

MONDAY, APRIL 25 at 6 p.m.
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Fine Watches and Clocks. Catalogue £2.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26 at 9.30 a.m.
Fine Antique Arms. Catalogue £2.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26 at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Fine Objects of Vertu. Catalogue £2.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26 at 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.
Important Silver. Catalogue £3.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27 at 10 a.m., 3 p.m. and 9 p.m.
Highly Important Russian Works of Art, including Works by Carl Fabergé. Catalogue £3.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28 at 10 a.m., 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
And **FRIDAY, APRIL 29 at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.**
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Sales begin at 11 a.m. precisely unless otherwise stated and are subject to the conditions printed in the catalogues.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13 at 2 p.m.
English and Continental Pictures.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14 at 2 p.m.
Ceramics and Works of Art.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15 at 10.30 a.m.
Printed Books.

MONDAY, APRIL 18 at 10.30 a.m.
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English and Continental Watercolours, Drawings and Prints.

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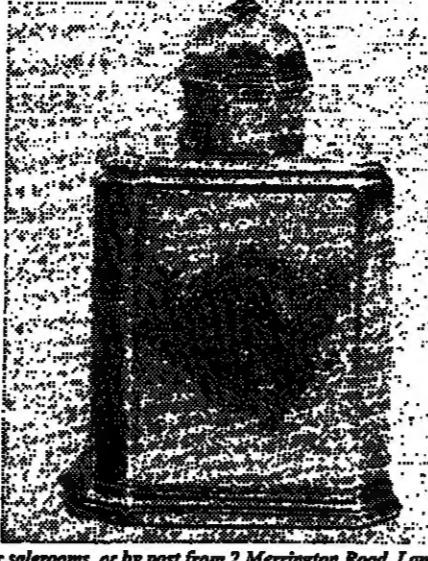
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